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NO. 7786

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1990 / RAJAB 10, 1410 AH

Pakistani killed on Kashmir border

LAHORE, Feb 5. (Agencies): Indian border guards shot dead a Pakistani demonstrator today and wounded 13 people after the man ran across a ceasefire line to protest at Indian actions in Kashmir, Pakistani officials said. The man crossed the control line dividing Kashmir, tore down an Indian flag and attacked an Indian guard with a stick, the deputy commissioner of Sialkot told reporters.

The unidentified man is the first to be killed on the heavily-guarded control line since widespread Muslim discontent in Indian Kashmir erupted into violence last month. It appeared set to raise the stakes in a simmering crisis between India and Pakistan that diplomats fear could lead to a third war between them over Kashmir.

Pakistan army chief General Mirza Aslam Beg told troops in Pakistan's Azad Kashmir

today, that Indian warnings over Pakistan's alleged role in the uprising had created an ominous political situation.

"Such threats have to be taken seriously and we will have to be fully prepared and vigilant to safeguard the frontier of the motherland," the official news agency APP reported.

Today's shooting happened near the small border town Sochaigarh at the southern end

of the 1,400 km (870 miles) ceasefire line dividing Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

Early reports said a band of protesters from the town marched to the ceasefire line as part of a national strike in solidarity with "freedom-fighters" in India-held Kashmir.

As they approached the line chanting "Down with India" and "Indian imperialists," one man dashed across and attacked an

Indian soldier.

Other soldiers of the Border Security Force opened fire, killing the man and wounding 13 others on the Pakistani side, the deputy commissioner said.

General strikes paralysed both Indian-controlled Kashmir and Pakistan today to press India to allow Kashmiris to decide their own future in a plebiscite.

In Pakistan all government offices, shops

and businesses were closed and no buses were running in the major cities.

In Lahore and Rawalpindi, bands of slogan shouting youths built barricades of bricks and burning tyres to keep private cars off the roads.

At one intersection in Rawalpindi, a large group set fire to an effigy of Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh and beat it

(Continued on Page 2)

Sharjah crown prince sacked

SHARJAH, Feb 5. (AP): The ruler of Sharjah has removed his elder brother as crown prince and deputy ruler, 21 years after the brother attempted a coup against him.

A decree read by the Sharjah state television last night said Sharjah ruler Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi issued a royal decree abolishing the decree issued June 17, 1987 which appointed Sheikh Abdul-Aziz as crown prince and deputy ruler of the emirate.

The decree, also distributed today in the local newspaper Al Khaleej, said the decision was made "to crown the blessed efforts of the elder brother (President) Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan."

The decree, which did not name a new crown prince, added that the decision was made "to end estrangement and serve the general interests." It did not elaborate.

Sheikh Zayed is the ruler of Abu Dhabi and the President of the United Arab Emirates which groups Abu Dhabi with Sharjah and five other emirates—Dubai, Ajman, Fujairah, Umm Al Quwain and Ras Al Khaimah.

The 1987 decree appointing Sheikh Abdul-Aziz as crown prince and deputy ruler came after his effort to topple his brother were aborted, and was a compromise to end a two-week crisis which had threatened the entire federation.

Sheikh Abdul-Aziz had seized power in a palace coup while his younger brother the ruler was abroad on a visit to England.



Shio Reichman weeps upon hearing that his father was killed and his mother wounded during the bus attack in Egypt. (Reuter wirephoto)



Shamir (right) and Peres bow their heads in memory of the killed in the bus attack. (Reuter wirephoto)

Aoun breaks through Geagea in a tight corner

LF in retreat

BEIRUT, Feb 5. (Agencies):

Rebel Gen. Michel Aoun's tanked forces smashed into a Beirut stronghold of the rival Lebanese Forces militia today, tightening the noose around Christian warlord Samir Geagea's seaside headquarters after a week of war.

Police said Aoun's tanks punched with blazing cannons to within 300 yards (metres) of the militia's sprawling Kassardjian base in the working class district of Ain Rummaneh in Christian East Beirut.

Police said Aoun has regrouped his armour on the northern and northeastern flanks of Beirut's Christian sector for a make-or-break assault.

Thunderous blasts echoed across the city as police said die-hard militiamen crouching in narrow alleys fired armour-piercing rockets to try to blunt the armoured assault while fighters on rooftops hurled grenades.

Geagea has vowed that his militia, with 6,000 hardcore fighters and 30,000 reservists, will "resist unto death ... to end the dictator's reign of terror" in the Christian enclave north of the capital.

Witnesses in hills above the Christian sector, reached by telephone from Cyprus, said fighting was raging inside smoke-shrouded Ain Rummaneh south of the Karantina quarter where Geagea has his command post.

Aoun's paratroopers secured the key coastal town of Dbayeh, five miles (eight kms) north of Beirut today, the day after they seized it in fierce hand-to-hand combat.

The Lebanese Forces conceded that its 80-man Dbayeh garrison, outnumbered and made a "tactical retreat."

Police said 59 soldiers and militiamen were killed, including nine of Aoun's officers, in Dbayeh, with another 70 wounded.

Police said at least 277 people have been killed and 1,037 wounded.

(Continued on Page 2)

Forgo grip on power: Gorby

MOSCOW, Feb 5. (Reuter):

President Mikhail Gorbachev asked the ruling Communist Party today to abandon its guaranteed monopoly on power and predicted an era with other political parties flourishing in the Soviet Union.

His remarks signalled an unpreceded upheaval for the 20-million-strong party, sole ruler of the Soviet Union since the 1917 Bolshevik revolution.

Gorbachev offered a sweeping

revamp of the party in his boldest

attempt to overhaul the Soviet political system since taking the Kremlin leadership in 1985.

His blueprint for radical political change follows the fall of his reforms to get the Soviet economy moving and boge protests in Eastern Europe that have brought down old-style communist systems.

Responding to mass public calls for rapid change, Gorbachev told a key Communist Party meeting that growing political "pluralism" could lead to the creation of parties other than the communists.

He said the current constitutional provision maintaining the party's monopoly on power was inconsistent with reform.

The Soviet leader, quoted by the official Tass news agency, urged the party to cast off "decades of political dogma."

"This process (of political pluralism) can lead to the creation of some stage of parties," he declared, outlining ideas for a forthcoming party congress.

The United States, halting yesterday's rally by hundreds of thousands of Soviet citizens, said today that its dream was for a multi-party system and a free economy for the Soviet Union and all people. (See Page 7)

(Continued on Page 2)

Iran, PFLP praise attack as heroic 'Egypt responsible' Hell and agony as 9 Israelis gunned down

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb 5. (Agencies): As the bodies of Israeli tourists gunned down in Egypt were brought home today, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir declared Egypt responsible for the safety of visiting Israelis.

Shamir demanded that Egypt find the gunmen who attacked the bus about 37 miles (60 km) east of Cairo, bring them to trial and punish them "with the full weight of the law." Nine Israelis were killed by the gunmen, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said. Earlier today, Israeli officials reported 10 Israelis had died.

"We see Egypt responsible for the safety and security of the Israeli citizens visiting Egypt," Shamir said.

In a telephone conversation Sunday evening with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Shamir said violence must be stopped before peace can be achieved.

"We must not allow crazy terrorists to decide peace processes," Shamir told Mubarak when the Egyptian President called to express condolences. Shamir also said peace efforts must continue despite the slaughter.

A group claiming to represent the Islamic Jihad in Amman and the previously unknown "the Oppressed Egyptians" in Egypt took responsibility for the attack. The Islamic Jihad statement said the group wanted "to hit the peace process in the region."

Egyptian investigators said they found beside a road in the Nile River delta, the white Peugeot station wagon used in Sunday's attack. They said they had clues to the attackers.

One survivor likened Sunday's attack to "hell." Twenty Israelis and an Egyptian remained under treatment for bullet and shrapnel wounds and burns after one seriously injured Israeli died.

The bus carried a total of 33 people—31 Israeli tourists, an Egyptian tourist guide and the driver, also an Egyptian.

Israeli embassy spokeswoman Dorot Shavit told the Associated Press mid-morning today that nine Israelis died, 20 were injured and two escaped unharmed.

Egyptian officials and newspapers said the Egyptian tourist guide, Wadia Sorial, 27, was injured but the driver was not.

(Continued on Page 2)

"It is not acceptable that Israelis will be repeated targets for killers exploiting the grounds of Egypt for carrying out their low and murderous deeds," Shamir told the Knesset, the Israeli parliament.



An Israeli man runs into a plainclothes policeman who blocks him as he sprints to an Israeli Air Force plane carrying the man's wounded relatives back from Egypt. (Reuter wirephoto)

DAY BY DAY

ON national issues, when one is convinced of a particular stance, this conviction should be "the guide" that the individual should not place one foot in one direction and the other in another.

He is the biggest hypocrite who waits for one group to defeat the other and then applaud the victorious.

We, thus reiterate that there is no alternative to the consultative system of ruling. As this is stated by every individual in our small country, it is vital that there is clear vision and all contribute in a cordial manner to the betterment of the country.

Being convinced of the issue, we should state our opinions in all candour.

Zahed Matar

Broad-based govt in East Germany

EAST BERLIN, Feb 5. (Reuter): East Germany's Parliament agreed today to include eight opposition figures in a new government in which communists are in the minority for the first time in 40 years.

In a televised vote the Parliament, or Volkskammer, voted to approve Prime Minister Hans Modrow's broad-based government of "national responsibility".

The eight new cabinet members are ministers without portfolio and join the existing 24-strong administration.

(See Page 7)

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Aquino backs return of death penalty

MANILA, Feb 5. (Reuter): Philippine President Corazon Aquino, angered by the rape and violent murder of two children, says she wants the death penalty reinstated, four years after her government abolished it.

Aquino urged swift passage of a law reviving capital punishment for heinous crimes after attending a service for Nikki Ann Noblez, nine, and her sister, Angeli Ann, seveco, who were raped and bashed to death by a drug addict on January 26.

"We cannot afford another tragedy like this," Aquino said after viewing the bodies yesterday in the northern province of Pangasinan.

The Aquino government did away with the death penalty when it rewrote the constitution in 1986, just after toppling then President Ferdinand Marcos. The abolition of the law stemmed from a national clamour for human rights following the Marcos regime's alleged widespread abuses.

Military leaders have also urged the return of the death penalty, saying tougher laws were needed to combat criminals and discourage coup attempts.

Aquino was nearly overthrown in an army revolt last December, the sixth and most serious coup attempt she has faced in her four years in office.

Lebanon's Christians feuding for long time

NICOSIA, Feb 5. (AP): The fighting between rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and Lebanese Forces leader Samir Geagea is one of the bloodiest feuds in the seemingly endless power struggle that has long splintered the Maronite Catholics, Lebanon's dominant Christian sect.

Police say 210 people have been killed and nearly 1,000 wounded since Tuesday amid widespread shooting.

Since the civil war began in April 1975, the Christians have sought to present a united front against the Muslims and lefists, who have been supported for much of the time by Syria, Iran and Libya.

Unlike the constantly squabbling Muslims, whose vendettas have repeatedly erupted into pitched battles in Beirut and south Lebanon, the Christians have largely been able to paper over their disputes. But they have never been able to completely mask their rivalries.

The Maronites are the only Christians in the Middle East who have ever held power. But their days may now be numbered as they fight among themselves, ringed by hostile Syrian-backed forces in an enclave north of Beirut.

Although Maronites have dominated the army, government, parliament and judiciary since independence from France in 1943, the military has

largely stayed out of the civil war. It did not seriously get embroiled in the bloodshed until last year, when Aoun, the army commander, ordered his troops into action against the Syrians as well as sporadic clashes with Geagea's powerful Lebanese forces, the Christians' main militia.

Aoun considers himself the only legitimate authority in Lebanon after ousting President Amin Gemayel appointed him interim prime minister in September 1983 — even though a new president, Elias Hirawi, was elected last November.

The power struggle in the Christian camp has centred on the three key Maronite dynasties, the

Gemayels, Chamouns and Franjehs. Each had their own private armies and controlled lucrative rackets and political influence in Parliament. Each of the families produced presidents.

The rivalry between these clans has claimed hundreds of lives in the last decade and a half. Like the unending internal conflicts in the Muslim camp, the violence underlines the fragility of the concept of nationalism to which all the factions have traditionally allowed allegiance.

The right-wing Phalangists of the late Sheikh Pierre Gemayel first clashed in earnest with the Tigers militia of former President Camille

Chamoun in February 1976, 10 months after the civil war broke out.

That confrontation was quickly suppressed, but the seeds of future bloodshed were planted.

As the civil war dragged on, the Gemayels moved to seize control of the Maronite camp. Gemayel's charismatic young son, Bashir, emerged as their military leader and in 1978 he began to eliminate his rivals.

His first target was the Franjehs, who controlled a freedom in north Lebanon with its capital in the mountain town of Zgharta.

The Franjehs were blocking Phalangist efforts

to muscle in on their rackets in the north and were aligning themselves with the Syrians. Scores of militiamen were killed in shootouts.

On June 13, Bashir sent a 100-man force to attack former President Suliman Franjech's summer palace at Ehden, 65 miles (105 kilometers) north of Beirut.

The pre-dawn assault was led by a young former medical student and policeman's son who had impressed Bashir with his ruthlessness. His name: Samir Geagea.

The Phalangists slaughtered Franjech's older son Tony, his wife Vera, their three-year-old daughter Leanne and 30 bodyguards.

Aoun tightens noose

Geagea HQ under tank attack

(Continued from Page 1)

control of the Christian enclave, where an estimated 1 million people live.

Aoun's forces, who already hold the highway linking Karantina to Lebanese Forces bases in the northern ports of Jounieh and Byblos, are now able to interdict Geagea's maritime supply line.

"By taking Dbya, a major Lebanese Forces armour base, the general has destroyed the militia's rear lines before turning for a frontal assault," said Karantina Beirut's independent An Nahar daily said.

Its publisher, Ghassan Tueini, denounced Aoun and Geagea in a front-page editorial as "madmen dancing around the fire... to build a republic of graves."

Shells hit hospitals, schools, and churches today and set fuel tanks, power plants, factories and apartment buildings on fire.

These are burning out of control. The civil defence department said fire brigades have no water to fight the fires because all Beirut's pumping stations have been knocked out.

Several hospitals, where victims are being treated in crowded corridors, warned they would not be able to function for more than two or three days because water, blood, plasma and oxygen supplies are virtually exhausted.

The shelves slacked in some districts at dawn, allowing tens of thousands of civilians to venture out from basements and under-



Two Muslim men clear street in west Beirut of concrete blocks that littered the narrow alley after several shells hit the area. (Reuter wirephoto)

ground bomb shelters in some areas for the first time in six days.

"I'm stunned," said Youssef Khazze, 35, whose electrical tools store in the East Beirut residential district of Ashrafieh was gutted.

He said his government will not intervene to stop the fighting by force "unless people of the area appeal for such a move."

"We don't want to see more killing in Lebanon," Djierjian said in a statement in Damascus, Syria's capital. "The Hirawi

Associated Press by telephone.

President Hirawi, said today, "Aoun should step down to halt the bloodbath."

He said his government will not intervene to stop the fighting by force "unless people of the area appeal for such a move."

"We don't want to see more killing in Lebanon," Djierjian said in a statement in Damascus, Syria's capital. "The Hirawi

presidency offers Lebanon this possibility. Aoun offers disunity."

Hirawi's veteran Prime Minister, Salim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim respected by many Christians, told the Christian sector in a radio address: "My heart is bleeding for the unimaginable plight you are suffering at the hands of executioners disgracing the human race."

US, UK condemn killing of Israelis

(Continued from Page 1)

Ms Shavit said eight Israelis died Sunday — six instantly and two on the way to hospital at the Suez Canal city of Ismailiya.

One of the injured Israelis died early today at a Cairo hospital, she said.

An Israeli official in Jerusalem initially said a 10th fatality succumbed to wounds aboard a C-130 Hercules transport plane flown to Cairo to evacuate 16 wounded to Israel.

But the official later admitted he made a mistake and that the death toll stood at nine.

A statement issued by Mubarak said the attack was "directed primarily" against current US-led Middle East peace efforts. He denounced it as "a monstrous aggression."

Another statement from Egypt's Interior Ministry said two gunmen who killed bus passengers with automatic fire and hand grenades "spoke in a non-Egyptian accent," suggesting that they were either Palestinians or from other Arab countries.

Authorities immediately tightened up security in Cairo's southern suburb of Maadi, where many Israeli diplomats live. Police threw up barricades and checked cars in the suburb, where Egyptian gunmen attacked Israeli diplomats in 1984 and 1985.

A state of alert was also declared in Egypt's sea and air ports to prevent the gunmen from fleeing outside the country.

Egyptian police today questioned the Palestinian driver of the Israeli tourist bus attacked by masked gunmen, security sources said.

They said police were investigating possible collusion between the driver, of the bus and the driver of the white Peugeot 505 used to ambush it on Sunday.

The sources said both men were Palestinians from the Rafah area, straddling the border with the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

The source told Reuters that security forces were still hunting the Peugeot driver and two other men, a Syrian and a Palestinian with Jordanian nationality.

Eight other dead were found to be from the Egyptian side of the border and had taken Egyptian nationality 10 years ago, the sources said.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency said the bus driver was taken to the scene of the attack along with the abandoned Peugeot in an attempt to reconstruct the ambulance.

Police released three men held today for six hours on suspicion of involvement in the attack, security sources said.

They said Saudi passports carried by the men, first believed to be foreigners, had been found to be genuine.

A consular official from the Saudi Arabian embassy had intervened and the men were released after six hours in detention, the sources said.

The radio of a radical Palestinian group said today the militant Islamic Jihad movement carried out the attack on a bus in Egypt.

Operated by the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), the Al Quds (Jerusalem) radio said: "The Islamic Jihad movement — Beit Al Maqdis — presents this small operation to the chaste souls of the martyrs of the intifada (uprising) in Palestine."

Islamic Jihad also claimed responsibility in a handwritten statement to an international news agency in the

(Continued on Page 11)



A view of the damaged bus after the attack. (Reuter wirephoto)



Cooper an Israeli pediatrician, wounded in the eye waits in an ambulance outside a Cairo hospital. (Reuter wirephoto)



An Egyptian soldier stands guard as some officials inspect a Peugeot 505 car which was found near the attack. (Reuter wirephoto)

Daughter's cries float in the air

'Mother, mother'

TEL AVIV, Feb 5. (Agencies):

Screaming "mother mother" an Israeli woman smashed through a window at Tel Aviv airport to try to reach the wounded victims of the Israeli bus attack in Egypt as they were carried from an air force plane.

Her cries carried across the runway, shattering the silence, as medics carefully unloaded 16 wounded and two dead from the Hercules transport plane today.

Eight other dead were found to be from the Egyptian side of the border and had taken Egyptian nationality 10 years ago, the sources said.

An airport spokesman said the woman and her father smashed through a plate glass window in the terminal where relatives were being kept while the casualties were being ferried to a waiting ambulance.

"Ima, Ima (mother, mother)" she screamed as police wrestled the two to the ground.

They struggled free and were forced to the ground a second time before an ambulance took the hysterical daughter away.

Officials said later her mother was among the wounded survivors.

It took an hour to carry the victims from the gaping cargo door of the Hercules, each taken on a stretcher to a waiting ambulance and rushed off to hospitals.

Hundreds of army medics, government officials and journalists stood outside — kept well back from the victims — and the relatives of the dead and wounded waiting inside the terminal.

Most of those anxiously waiting did not know the condition of their relatives and some angrily told reporters to leave them alone.

Hendi Yehudit, a well-known Israeli writer waited for news on her sister and brother-in-law. All she had heard was that her sister was wounded.

"I don't know what happened to my brother in law," Yehudit said.

"We're here in the airport with their three children waiting, and I don't know."

Limon Bulai, the daughter of Orna Bulai of Tel Aviv, who was wounded in the bus attack, told reporters she was concerned about her mother's trip.

"I told her not to go," Miss Bulai said. "I think it (Egypt) is not a safe place for Israelis. She wanted me to go with her, but I wouldn't."

A survivor, Rivka Betzer, told Israel Radio: "Really, it was hell. I didn't know how some people survived."

Ms Betzer said that as passengers dived for the floor, "the cassette continued and the shots were heard, grenades exploded and it was really macabre."

"I didn't manage to get to him. He fired at me and I fell."

Betzer, who praised an Egyptian doctor who stopped on the road and hospital staff, said they were about 50 km (30 miles) from Cairo when the bus stopped.

"There were some hand grenades that blew up in my face and I don't know how I wasn't injured by them. I managed to leap out through the back door."

But a gunman was waiting. After Betzer was shot, he lay helpless, his face against the ground.

"I heard him firing over me. He was standing right next to me and shooting into the bus many, many bullets," Betzer told the army reporters. "There were explosions and many shouts from the wounded."

Kashmir grinds to a halt

Zia's son calls for jihad against India

(Continued from Page 1)

criticised Pakistan's Foreign Ministry of being too slow to react to the Kashmir crisis.

Jiaz ul-Haq, the son of Pakistan's former President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, addressed the demonstrators and called for a "jihad," or holy war, against India.

Zia's son condemned Benazir's government for what it called inaction.

"Our present government is not able to fight for Kashmir," said Jiaz speaking in Pakistan's native Urdu language. "We should fight for them and announce a jihad for Kashmir," he said.

He likened Muslim militants in Jammu-Kashmir to Afghan insurgents fighting to topple successive communist governments in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Zia was a staunch supporter of US-backed Afghan insurgents, who call themselves mujahideen or Islamic "holy warriors."

The militancy of the speakers at today's rally ran contrary to the conciliatory attitude taken by Ghulam Iatoi, the leader of Pakistan's

parliamentary opposition at a news conference earlier in the day.

The nation stands united on the Kashmir issue," he said.

The opposition's call for a 24-hour strike was met by a government announcement that today would be a national holiday in sympathy with the Muslim separatis.

In the Jammu and Kashmir winter capital of Srinagar, streets were virtually deserted of pedestrians, although large numbers of combat-ready troops and police remained deployed.

An absence of public transport prevented most bank and government workers from getting to their jobs, employees reported. Most other residents remained indoors.

In the most serious incident today, separatist snipers opened fire on

parliamentary opposition members of the Central Reserve Police Force in the Saraf Kadal area of Srinagar, 400 miles (640 km) north of New Delhi, injuring one officer.

The patrol returned fire. Two bystanders were caught in the cross fire and wounded, police and witnesses said. The injured were taken to a hospital for treatment.

Indian External Affairs Minister Inder Kumar Gujral said today, his country was not heading for war with Pakistan on the Kashmir issue, but added "we are capable of defending our country" if the war is imposed on us.

Gujral said it is unfortunate that some ruling elite in Pakistan were hesitant in seeing major changes in the world and in India's foreign policy.

Bingo Day 12

7 21 74 59

Sultans Center

Scientists to scan space for alien life

PASADENA, California, Feb 5, (AP): The search for intelligent life in space soon will expand to the entire universe when Argentina gets a high-tech radio receiver to listen for signals from the regions of space visible from the Southern hemisphere.

"There are so many stars like the sun that it's impossible to think the sun is the only one that has life on an orbiting planet," said Raul Colomb, director of Argentina's Institute of Radioastronomy.

The Planetary Society — a Pasadena-based nonprofit group that advocates space exploration — raised \$150,000 from its 125,000 members in 70 nations to pay for the sophisticated radio signal analyzer, named Megabanner Extraterrestrial Assay II.

The size of two large refrigerators, Meta II will be flown to Colomb's institute in two to three weeks, said Thomas McDonough, co-ordinator of the planetary society's part of the world-wide search for extraterrestrial intelligence programme, known as Seti.

Two Argentine engineers have been building the device at the Harvard-Smithsonian Oak Ridge Observatory in Harvard, Massachusetts, West of Boston.

Since 1985, the planetary society's identical Meta receiver at Oak Ridge has scanned the space visible from the Northern hemisphere seeking a radio signal from an alien civilisation.

Steven Spielberg, director of the film "ET, The Extra-Terrestrial," donated \$100,000 for the first Meta project, which is the world's most powerful operating Seti system.

Research

Such research began in 1960. Since then astronomers have conducted more than 50 separate but mostly limited searches for any radio waves that may have been intentionally beamed into space by intelligent extraterrestrials.

Scientists would know they discovered an alien civilisation if they found an ultranarrow frequency signal, which the laws of physics say couldn't come from any natural phenomenon or earthly source, McDonough said.

Almost all previous searches listened to Northern hemisphere space, with only brief, partial scans of the Southern hemisphere from Australia and Colomb's institute, in a park 30 miles (48 kilometres) southeast of Buenos Aires. The centre of our Milky Way Galaxy is visible only from the Southern hemisphere.

Tests of Meta II will start in June after the 8.4 million-channel receiver is hooked to one of the Argentine institute's two dish-shaped, 98-foot-wide (30-metre-wide) radio telescope antennas.

By its dedication on Oct 12 — the holiday commemorating Christopher Columbus' discovery of the new world in 1492 — the device will spend at least 12 hours daily for three or more years listening for signs that humanity is not alone.

With both Meta receivers working, the planetary society will be conducting "the first systematic search of the universe as a whole for signals from another civilisation," McDonough said. "This could be the system that makes the first contact with another civilisation."

Colomb said discovery of intelligent aliens "will change everything in the world."

"Man has always asked who we are and where we are going, and this part of the answer," said Colomb.

Lung-assist transplantee critical

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb 6, (UPI): The first recipient of an experimental device designed to give a person dying of lung disease time to heal was in critical condition, the doctors said.

The patient, reportedly a 16-year-old girl with less than a 10 per cent chance of living with normal treatment, remained in critical condition late yesterday, a spokesman at LDS Hospital said.

Nursing supervisor Richard Smith said the device — which performs the lung's function of exchanging gases in blood and is called an intravascular oxygenator, or IVOX — was inserted in a vein in the unidentified patient's groin and threaded into the vein supplying her heart in a two-hour

operation Friday afternoon. Doctors stressed that the temporary implant is not a replacement for the lungs, but only a device that surgeons hope will give damaged or diseased lungs time to heal.

"Calling it an artificial lung is like saying glasses are an artificial eye," said Dr Terry Clemmer, the hospital's chief of critical care.

The hospital, abiding by a request by the family, declined to identify the patient, but a source who asked not to be identified said the patient is a 16-year-old girl.

Doctors warned that it will take several months to evaluate the importance or success of the device.

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Confidence: partly genetic, partly experience

STOCKHOLM, Feb 5, (AP): Some people are born with the belief that they are masters of their own lives. Others feel they are at the mercy of fate.

New research shows that part of those feelings are in the genes.

Psychologists have long known that people confident in their ability to control their destinies are more likely to adjust well to growing old than those who feel that they drift on the currents

of fate.

They also found that the belief in blind luck — a conviction that coincidence plays a big role in life — is something learned in life and has nothing to do with heredity.

The research was conducted at the

Karolinska Institute — better known as the body that annually awards the Nobel prize for medicine — by Nancy Pedersen of the institute and Margaret Gatz, a professor of psychology at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Their results were recently published in the United States in the Journal of Gerontology.

"The belief in your ability to control your life direction, or the belief in your own competence, is 30 per cent some-

thing you are born with," said Gatz, interviewed during a consultation visit to Sweden.

People who are confident of their ability to control their lives have an "internal locus of control," and have a better chance of being well adjusted in their old age, said Pedersen.

An "external locus of control," believing that outside forces determine the course of life, has been linked to depression in later years, she said.

"This is one of the windows on the aging process," said Pedersen, who has published a series of studies on the genetics of personality traits based on interviews with twins. The study on life-control involved 554 pairs of twins.

"We are trying to understand what makes people different. What makes some people age gracefully and others have a more difficult time?" she said.

"Whether people feel independent is

an important standard for service institutions and how they treat the elderly," she said.

The study showed that while people have an inborn predilection toward independence and self-confidence, about 70 per cent of this personality trait is affected by a person's environment and lifetime experiences.

Pedersen's study uses, with various collaborators, to probe the aging process by comparing sets of twins.



Valley submerged

Flood waters cover a road in the Hunter Valley north of Sydney after cyclone Nancy lashed the east coast of Australia on Feb 4 causing widespread damage and road closures. The cyclone has claimed three dead and two others were missing and feared dead. (Reuters photo)

PEOPLE AND PLACES

PORTLAND, Oregon: Many toddlers who are slow to speak fail to outgrow the problem by the time they reach age 3, suggesting treatment should be considered to expand their vocabulary, a scientist says.

"Traditional wisdom has counseled a wait-and-see attitude for 2-year-olds with delayed language development," said Rhoda Paul, an associate professor of speech and hearing sciences at Portland State University.

But while some such toddlers improve spontaneously, many who show early signs of trouble expressing themselves may experience "long-term difficulty in language and school achievement," she said.

Paul's study involved 42 toddlers with language considered normal, and 36 considered "language delayed," producing fewer than 10 intelligible words at 18 to 23 months, or fewer than 50 words or no two-word combinations by 24 to 34 months. Of the 2-year-olds who were "language delayed," 41 per cent couldn't express themselves as well as they should have by age 3. Paul found. And more than half of the 3-year-olds showed delays in their ability to understand. (AP)

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia: Infected, inflamed sinuses can masquerade as a dental problem by causing a toothache in the upper molars, says an association of ear, nose and throat doctors.

"Patients should be suspicious that they have sinusitis and not dental problems if their pain is combined with nasal discharge or stuffiness and if the tenderness is located in the upper jaw area," said David W. Kennedy, of the American academy of otolaryngology — head and neck surgery.

Moira Deagle, the group's spokeswoman, said the academy decided to publicize the problem after a staff member rushed to her dentist in acute pain, only to find the problem was with her sinuses, not her teeth.

The maxillary sinus cavity above the upper jaw has membranes that can be inflamed and swollen by infection, causing pain and

tenderness in the upper jaw and teeth. The condition, acute sinusitis, usually happens after a cold, flu or allergy attack causes swelling of membranes in the nose. The swelling blocks tiny openings from the sinuses to the nose, allowing mucus to build up in the sinuses and causing a feeling of pressure. (AP)

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts: Actor Kevin Costner and actress Glenn Close have been chosen as the man and woman of the year by the Hasty Pudding Theatricals of Harvard, which annually honours impressive entertainers.

Close will be given a parade through Harvard Square and will be presented with the traditional "pudding pot" at the Hasty Pudding Theatre on February 13. Costner will receive his award at the premiere performance of the Hasty Pudding Theatricals' 142nd annual music production, "Sweden Expectations," on February 20.

Hasty Pudding publicity manager Rebecca Markus said Costner, star of "Field of Dreams" and "The Untouchables," was chosen for the independence and boldness he has shown in his selection of roles.

Costner was chosen for her versatility in playing everything from a self-sacrificing heroine in "The Big Chill" to the calculating Marquise de Merteuil in "Dangerous Liaisons." Markus said.

The nation's oldest undergraduate organisation, also has recognised Katherine Hepburn, Meryl Streep, Lucille Ball, Steven Spielberg, Sean Connery and Steve Martin. (AP)

JUNEAU, Alaska: Alaska should be put in its place — in the upper left-hand corner of the map of the United States, according to legislators.

Too often Alaska is shown in a small corner off the coast of California, or just left off US maps altogether, said state representative Fredricka Lissner.

Alaska is the sponsor of a resolution that asks the nation's newspapers, magazines and book publishers to put the state in its rightful geographic position. The Alaska House of Representatives

passed the resolution unanimously Monday and sent it to the Senate.

The resolution was expanded at the request of Congresswoman George Jacko to ask publishers not to cut off the Aleutian Islands. (AP)

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Dr Maclyn McCarty of New York, an early pioneer in genetic research, has been named the 1990 winner of the \$100,000 Wolf Prize in medicine, to be presented at the Israel Knesset, or parliament, in May.

McCarty, 78, who retired from the faculty of New York's Rockefeller University in 1981, was chosen for his work on DNA and genetics in mid-1940s with Colin MacLeod and Edward Avery at the Rockefeller, he is the only survivor of the three scientists.

The work, the foundation said, "opened the way to the great discoveries of the 20th century in molecular biology, culminated by the unravelling of the genetic code."

The award was established in 1973 by the late Ricardo Wolf to promote science and art for the benefit of mankind. Wolf was a German-born inventor and philanthropist who emigrated to Cuba, which named him ambassador to Israel. He died here in 1981. (AP)

NEW YORK: Actress Lynn Redgrave helped raise funds for a hurricane-damaged arts festival in historic Charleston, South Carolina.

Redgrave was host of a benefit performance Monday at Lincoln Center, which raised about \$350,000 for the South Carolina Festival USA, an annual 17-day celebration of the arts. Festival-related buildings and equipment in

Charleston suffered an estimated \$4 million in damage when hurricane Hugo raged through the area in September.

Choreographer Jerome Robbins,

'All the President's children'

'Life's not easy'

WASHINGTON, Feb 5, (AP): Life has not been easy for the children of US presidents.

That's the conclusion of an unusual study commissioned by one of President George Bush's offspring shortly after his father won the 1985 election.

Douglas Wead, now a White House aide, reviewed the lives of presidential offspring from John Adams to Ronald Reagan and produced a 44-page treatise on "all the president's children." His conclusion: History "should be a sobering warning..."

The weekly magazine US News and World Report published excerpts of Wead's report in its Feb 12 edition as part of a story looking at how the five Bush children are faring under the spotlight.

Wead "found a consistent pattern of trouble for the sons and daughters of presidents," the magazine reported. "There were higher-than-average rates of divorce, alcoholism and accidental death; a wide variety of scandals over real or perceived conflicts of interest, and constant frustration over lack of independence."

Wead was asked to undertake the study by Bush's eldest son, George Walker Bush, 43, who last year became managing partner of the Texas Rangers Baseball team. He ruled out a run for Governor of Texas this year.

Passed the resolution unanimously Monday and sent it to the Senate.

The resolution was expanded at the request of Congresswoman George Jacko to ask publishers not to cut off the Aleutian Islands. (AP)

WASHINGTON: Local jails in the United States held a record number of inmates by mid-1988, more than twice number held in those jails a decade earlier, the bureau of justice statistics reported Sunday.

The bureau, a component of the Justice Department's office of justice programmes, said in a new study that 9.7 million people were admitted to local jails between June 30, 1980, and June 30, 1988.

But 9.6 million people were released during the same time period, with some of those people being admitted and released several times during the year. The total inmate population on June 30, 1988, was 243,569 on June 30, 1988, about double the number on June 30, 1978, the bureau said.

By the time Kim received the liver and gall bladder of a 7-year-old boy killed in a car accident on Jan 22, 1970, only four of the 32 previous recipients were still alive.

By mid-1975, all four were dead.

Kim lived on, though, followed by more and more survivors.

Twenty-eight of the 170 patients who underwent transplants by Starzl through February 1980 still are alive.

The real breakthrough came in 1980, when Starzl began testing the anti-rejection drug cyclosporine on liver transplant patients. One-year survival rates soared, eventually settling at today's 70 per cent to 80 per cent.

Cyclosporine, approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for general use in 1983, now is being surpassed by an even stronger drug, known as FK-506. The Japanese drug is believed 50 to 100 times more powerful than cyclosporine. Starzl has conducted the US clinical trials since February 1989.

Doctors hesitate to change Kim's medication.

NEW YORK: Neighbors and friends of a teenage boy shot dead by police described him alternately as a "noble kid" who was also a known drug dealer, New York Newsday reported Sunday.

Robert Cole, 13, was found lying 35 vials of crack cocaine when he was shot once, Friday night, by a police officer, authorities said. The officer said Cole had pointed a gun at him and refused verbal commands to drop it, authorities said.

Cole, an intermediate school dropout, was the third teen killed by police in the past week and the eighth civilian slain by police gunfire since the New Year began.

Young to announce candidacy

'I don't want a run off'

ATLANTA, Feb 5, (AP): Former Atlanta mayor Andrew Young plans to announce his candidacy for governor of Georgia tonight, and he hopes to win the nomination outright in the primary.

"My campaign folk get upset when I say this, but I don't want a runoff," Young told a meeting of the Southside public officials last week, when he revealed his plans to make a formal announcement.

Young, who is trying to become the state's first black governor, shares the lead with four-term Lt Gov Zell Miller in some Democratic polls. The race also includes state Sen. Ray E. Barnes and state Rep. Lauren W. McDonald Jr., who is backed by powerful House Speaker Tom Murphy and former Gov. Lester Maddox.

Transplant survivor celebrates 'versary'

PITTSBURGH, Feb 5, (AP): It's been 20 years since transplant surgeon gave a little boy's liver to Kim Hudson, unsure how long the 3 1/2 year-old girl would last beyond the operation, indeed whether she would last at all.

Kim Hudson is now Kim Resmane, wife of a US air force officer. Being the world's longest-surviving recipient of a liver transplant is a distinction she's just as soon forged.

"I don't like to talk about it," she said. "I hate hospitals, I do not like doctors that well — I associate them with transplants. It's all scary. I shake when I go in to get my blood work. They thought I was going to pass out a couple months ago. I hate it, and it doesn't get any better."

Kim fears her luck will run out if she brags about her Jan 22, 1970, transplant and how well she has done. Thoughts of the transplant — and the ever-present risks — follow her everywhere.

"I think about my health all the time. I pray every day I stay healthy, I pray that it all keeps working."

Even Dr Thomas F. Starzl, who performed the transplant at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Centre, can't explain Kim's uninterrupted good health for practically all the time since we did her."

"You could call it providential if you were inclined that way," said Starzl, who is now at the University of Pittsburgh.

Reagan keeping in shape at 79

LOS ANGELES, Feb 5, (AP): Former US President Ronald Reagan says he's keeping in shape by pumping iron daily and trimming trees with a chain saw.

Reagan remains busy on the speaking circuit, delivering speeches on conservative issues. He has embraced an active retirement, saying he loves his return to California.

The ex-president, whose birthday is tomorrow, discussed his personal life last week in an interview with the Associated Press. Reagan pointed to the Pacific Ocean and Channel Islands visible from his 34th-floor office in the Century City section.

"I've always said that a Californian who is forced to live away from California lives in a state of perpetual homesickness," he said, adding, "it isn't a place, it's a way of life."

Reagan said he was sceptical about whether the cold war has ended, and was hopeful Americans in Lebanon would be freed.

Age hasn't diminished Reagan's love of a self-deprecating joke.

"I prefer to think of it as the 40th anniversary of my 39th birthday," Reagan quipped.

He attributed his health to daily weight lifting in his basement gym and trimming trees during monthly trips to his Santa Barbara County ranch.

He's been swinging axes, gripping chain saws, "and even on pole saws," on the majestic oaks surrounding his mountain-top retreat 12 miles (200 kilometres) northwest of Los Angeles.

"Now you can sit there on the patio and look up there at a grove of trees visible from the house and you're in only seeing those gnarled trunks but you're seeing the dappled sunlight in there, and the sky through the trees," he said.

Since a brain surgery last year after he was thrown from a horse in Mexico, Reagan's hair has grown back—still black but with a more pronounced touch of grey. He's also riding again.

"Nothing is so good for the inside of a man as the outside of a horse," he said.

House-hunting

The former president said he and wife, Nancy, now own a \$2.5-million home in the Bel-Air community. It was originally purchased by friends for the couple's return to California.

Like some of his exploits that drew the wrath of Congress, the house-hunting expedition was a covert mission.

"If I went any place the press would have been in attendance and we didn't want that publicity at the time," he said.

He said Mrs Reagan persuaded him to succumb to the house.

"She said if I was willing to get down on the floor of the car and go there the press would be following or any photographer's or anything, so I did. I didn't get up until we were in the driveway," Reagan said.

Although his "outlook about California is sunny," Reagan's view about prospects for end to the cold war is somewhat darker. He lauded Time magazine's choice of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as "Man of the Decade," but said there is danger when foreign policy depends on the success of one man.

If Gorbachev prevails in his reforms, an era of better relations between East and West might be in sight.

"I think we see something on the horizon, but we also have to remember this is the world of a man who can be dismissed by the Communist Party if they see it in their way clear to do it," Reagan said.

"We have to know that permanent changes have been made before we can say everything is in the clear and the cold war is over."

On the drug menace, Reagan said the war can be won this decade.

"The way it must be done is we must generate the programmes in which the people, the customers turn away from the drugs, not us turning the drugs away from our customers," he said.

A major headache during Reagan's administration was the capture of Americans in Lebanon, he said. Held long-term by the eight rebels is Terry A. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press, who was abducted March 16, 1985.

Reagan is optimistic the hostages would eventually be freed.

"I have lived with that kind of hope," he said. "I think the obligation of the entire country is to come to the rescue of any American who in any part of the world is being denied the constitutional rights this country guarantees its people."

He declined to discuss aspects of the Iran-Contra scandal, citing pending litigation in the case involving secret arms sales to Iran and subsidies of profits to Nicaraguan rebels.

Attorneys for his former national security adviser, John Poindexter, are seeking Reagan's personal diary in the case, a move the former president has resisted.

Free Mandela soon or risk backlash: Tutu

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts, Feb 5, (Reuters): South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu said yesterday the Pretoria government must release Nelson Mandela soon or risk a backlash in world opinion softened by promises of liberalised policies towards the black majority.

Tutu told a news conference after a meeting of Harvard University board of which he is a member that he wished the jailed black nationalist leader could be freed immediately but that a few weeks' delay would be acceptable.

"If he is not released within weeks of this particular announcement then the world knows how to react," Tutu said.

South African President FW de Klerk, in a sweeping speech on Friday, promised to free Mandela and

ordered the lifting of a 30-year ban on the African National Congress, the nation's main opposition group of which Mandela is a founder.

Tutu, saying "we all belong to one family," declared yesterday that South Africa's blacks have no intention of imposing majority rule on its white minority if apartheid is abolished.

"People often think we're looking for black majority rule. No, no, absolutely not. A South African is a South African," Tutu told the news conference at Harvard University.

"We all belong together in one family, God's family, the human family," the Anglican archbishop of Johannesburg said. "We will be a wonderful country."

Tutu urged neighbouring Namibia and Zimbabwe

as examples of countries that have succeeded in making the difficult transition from minority to majority rule.

"Just look at the remarkable things in Namibia, where people have been given a picture of Swapo (the revolutionary South West Africa People's Organisation) as a monster, and now they have a constitution," Tutu said.

"Just look at Zimbabwe, where Ian Smith (the former prime minister under white-ruled Rhodesia) can remain in parliament and then resign on his own," the archbishop said.

Upon arriving in Boston Saturday, Tutu urged the United States and other foreign nations to continue applying economic and diplomatic pressure on South Africa until negotiations are held to

abolish apartheid, the official system of racial separation.

"Until we get Nelson Mandela released, until we get negotiations going, we can't begin to start celebrating," Tutu said.

Tutu was elected to the Harvard board of overseers last year as part of a drive to pressure the university into ridding itself of all investments in companies doing business in or with South Africa.

The board took no vote on the issue at yesterday's meeting, but Tutu said he and other anti-apartheid members of the panel will continue to press for disinvestment.

"What we wanted them to say categorically is, 'we will not invest in South African companies. We want them out,'" the archbishop said.



Tutu speaks during a press conference near the Harvard University campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts. (Reuters wirephoto)



Calderon waves to supporters.

Calderon for justice

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Feb 5, (AP): President-elect Rafael Angel Calderon says he plans to focus his energies on "improving social justice" in his country when he takes office on May 8.

Calderon succeeds President Oscar Arias, who could not seek re-election for another four-year term.

Calderon, 40, backs US aid to help El Salvador fight its leftist guerrilla insurgency and visited Panama to congratulate recently installed President Guillermo Endara shortly after the US invasion that toppled Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

But focusing on Costa Rica's domestic problems may affect the dynamics of the Central American peace process, which was driven by Arias' activist foreign policy.

"I will support the peace process, but I believe the main duty of a Costa Rican president is to deal with Costa Rica's problems," Calderon said at a new conference Friday.

Calderon's campaign culminated in a long effort to restore the

Young Costa Ricans mock vote

SAN JOSE, Feb 5, (Reuters): The weight of Costa Rica's democratic traditions fell on some small shoulders yesterday when thousands of children turned out for mock presidential elections.

The mini-voters, about 38,000 Costa Ricans under 14, took their civic duty as seriously as the 1.4 million adults who voted Sunday for a successor to Nobel prize-winning President Oscar Arias.

Five-year-old Pili Mira chose opposition candidate Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier for his "very honest eyes," but Alejandro Cespedes, 6, who voted at the next table, favoured Carlos Manuel Castillo of the ruling party.

Like their parents, the children followed strict rules aimed at keeping Costa Rica's elections free of fraud.

But organisers did admit to some "flexibility" when the youthful voters' ink thumbprints smudge the ballots, which are photocopies of the real thing with each party's flag coloured in crayon.

Poll-watcher Roberto Ortiz, 8, handed out ballots and guarded the returns, but stressed he is barred from siding in the actual voting.

"If we believed we would be interfering in the vote, and that would be suspicious," said Ortiz, who sported a Calderon shirt and cap.

memory of his father, Rafael Angel Calderon Guardia, who also became president at age 40 and served from 1940 to 1944.

However, he was exiled after he tried to nullify the results of the 1948 vote.

Calderon, whose full name is

Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, is familiarly known as "Junior."

During the campaign, he agreed that the economy had improved under two national liberation governments, but that was not the problem in his view.

memory of his father, Rafael Angel Calderon Guardia, who also became president at age 40 and served from 1940 to 1944.

However, he was exiled after he tried to nullify the results of the 1948 vote.

Calderon, whose full name is

dedicated to what Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel called "suffering that transcended suffering."

"Our work should lead to practical biological methods for cleansing the environment of these toxic chemicals in the near future," said Charles Castro, a chemist at the University of California, Riverside.

Vinyl Chloride, which the US Environmental Protection Agency says causes cancer, is used for making polyvinyl chloride pipes and insulation. PVC, which isn't considered carcinogenic, also is used in floor tiles and upholstery. (AP)

High-flying space acrobatics

Soviet cosmonauts left the Mir orbital station on Monday

for high-flying acrobatics on a space motorcycle

designed to rescue spacemen in distress and repair satellites.

Cosmonauts Alexander Viktorenko and Alexander Serebrov, who have been aboard the Mir complex for nearly five months, emerged from Mir for a second test of the motorcycle, officially known as the Cosmonaut Movement System, the official news agency Tass said.

The space motorcycle, which more closely resembles a floating armchair, was ridden for the first time last Thursday by Serebrov, the mission's flight engineer, who piloted the device about 33 metres (yards) from the giant Mir space station. (AP)

Mayor, journalist killed: The mayor of a small town and the owner of a radio station were killed on Saturday, bringing to 16 the number of Colombians killed in two days of leftist and drug-related violence, authorities said on Sunday in Bogota.

Pedro Jesus Hernandez Carrillo, 36, mayor of Arboleas in north Santander state, about 200 miles (325 km) northeast of Bogota, was killed by a group of gunmen after opening a lunch room for schoolchildren, the governor of the state, Eduardo Assaf, said in a radio interview.

Cuba calls UN session: The Cuban Ambassador, current president of the UN Security Council, has called an informal session of the council for Monday to discuss the US attack on a Cuban-chartered cargo ship off the coast of Mexico.

The council will meet in consultation late on Monday to decide whether to hold a formal meeting on Cuba's complaint. UN sources said on Sunday.

Holocaust memorial

Thousands of Jews,

most elderly and some bearing concentration-camp numbers inscribed on their wrists, gathered Sunday

at a holocaust memorial in Miami Beach, Florida.

The council will meet in consultation late on

Monday to decide whether to hold a formal meeting

on Cuba's complaint. UN sources said on Sunday.

Ortega urges US to normalise ties

MANAGUA, Feb 5, (UPI): President Daniel Ortega invited the US government to start talks aimed at normalising strained bilateral relations between the two nations, the local media reported yesterday.

"I invite the government of the United States to initiate serious and profound dialogue to normalise relations between our two nations,"

Ortega said Saturday at a campaign rally in the city of Diriamba, 28 miles (45 km) south of the capital.

At the same time Ortega asked the

US government "to put an end to its

policy of death against Nicaragua," the official daily *Barricada* reported.

The Bush administration should prove to the international community that "superpowers like the United States have learned to respect small nations like Nicaragua that have earned the right to be respected," Ortega was quoted as saying.

Ortega, apparently confident he will handily win re-election Feb 25, in recent days has been unusually conciliatory toward Washington in public statements.

He recently suggested that if

Nicaragua seeks talks with Washington to end state of hostility

Washington could have peaceful

relations with the Soviet Union if

Washington somehow shares more

common interests by being in the same hemisphere.

Ortega's apparent olive branch comes as Nicaragua is increasingly isolated from its former eastern bloc allies and as the Soviet Union, despite assurances that it will continue to provide economic support, is increasingly preoccupied with problems closer to home.

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In a year in which fighting in the

Contras do

not register

YAMALAS, Honduras, Feb 5, (UPI): Most of the 12,000 Contra rebels based here have ignored today's deadline to register to fight in Nicaragua's February 25 election, vowing to vote against the ruling Sandinistas by fighting on.

"We will not return to vote

because the vote won't be respected

said Julio Cesar Benavides, known

by his nom de guerre of Jackson.

Sandinistas have accused the Contras of sending hundreds of rebels

into Nicaragua in recent weeks to disrupt the elections in which

President Daniel Ortega faces Violeta Chamorro, candidate of a

party opposition alliance.

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Sinn Fein rallying support

Looking to pocketbook issues to oust Britons

DUBLIN, Feb 5. (AP): The Irish Republican Army's political wing is looking to pocketbook issues from unemployment to water bills to rally more support for its goal of a united Ireland.

The Sinn Fein party leadership's report to the annual convention, which ended yesterday, stressed that ending British rule in Northern Ireland took precedence over "gas and water politics."

"The priorities for Sinn Fein in the year ahead are to develop and strengthen our party organisation, to improve our publicity output and to overcome the effects of censorship," party president Gerry Adams told the convention on Saturday.

He added: "An essential part of this political offensive is active campaigning

on relevant issues which affect people in their daily lives and putting our republican analysis to their problems."

In other words, Sinn Fein will tell voters that the answer to poverty, unemployment and emigration is "Brits out."

Adams called for intensive efforts to make the same case in the Republic of Ireland.

"Gas and water politics" is nothing new for Sinn Fein, but it was highlighted instead of the criticism of the IRA heard at last year's conference.

Adams had complained that IRA killing of innocent civilians were hurting Sinn Fein, and called on the guerrillas to be "careful and careful again."

Just a week before the convention, a 16-year-old boy was killed by debris from an

IRA bomb in Londonderry.

Instead of chastising the guerrillas again, Adams boasted that "the IRA continues to demonstrate its ability to shatter the British propagandistic myth of the invincibility of the British army and its most elite regiments."

He called on the British government to open negotiations with Sinn Fein. British officials have said there will be no talks while fighting continues.

Sinn Fein's share of the vote in Northern Ireland dropped from 13.4 per cent in 1983 to 11.3 per cent in last year's local elections. It was beaten 2-1 among Catholics by the Social Democratic and Labour Party, which favours unity only by majority consent within Northern Ireland.

In Ireland, Sinn Fein's vote is nearly

invisible — 1.2 per cent in last summer's national elections.

Sinn Fein supporters are banned from appearing on radio and television both in Ireland and Northern Ireland, and the IRA is outlawed in both jurisdictions.

Appealing to Irish unity is not an automatic vote getter among Roman Catholics in Northern Ireland.

An opinion poll conducted last month for the Belfast Telegraph and the British Broadcasting Corp. found that 60 per cent of Catholics regard unity as "acceptable" — but 53 per cent also said the status quo was acceptable.

Sinn Fein is already strongest in the areas where economic problems are most acute, in the poor Catholic neighbourhoods of west Belfast and Londonderry.

Europe storm death toll 30

PARIS, Feb 5. (UPI): The death toll from one of the region's most deadly storms in two decades reached at least 30 yesterday and thousands of homes remained without power a day after winds up to 104 mph (167 kph) lashed parts of Europe, damaging architectural landmarks and ripping open a jetliner's wing.

At least 23 were reported dead in France and, in adjacent West Germany, the hurricane-force winds that lashed the country for the second time in 10 days were reported to have killed seven people and injured more than 50. Police said yesterday that thousands of trees were uprooted and hundreds of roofs were torn off buildings.

The storm abated before dawn yesterday but not before it caused several million dollars in damage in West Germany alone. In East Germany, the storm caused power failures and interruptions of rail service in several areas where trees fell on the lines.

In France, civil defence authorities said the death toll, which rose when several injured people died of their wounds, made Saturday's storm one of the worst in the past 20 years.

Three people died in Paris and the surrounding Ile de France region, which were hardest hit and recorded 104 mph winds.

Many victims were killed when their crushed their cars. Others were struck by flying signs, doors and debris from broken walls and balconies, authorities said.

The electricity utility company, Electricite de France, or EDF, said at least 40,000 customers remained without power yesterday. At the height of the storm, Saturday, 2 million customers lost power, an EDF spokesman said.

One Italian was killed and three injured in a major avalanche that struck yesterday in a Swiss Alps area frequented by skiers, officials said.

But Greece recalled its opposi-

Writers praise Rushdie

Defence fails to placate British Muslims

LONDON, Feb 5. (AP): Author Salman Rushdie's detailed defence of "The Satanic Verses" is winning plaudits from fellow writers but has failed to placate British Muslims who say the novel is blasphemous.

Several writers said Rushdie's 7,000-word essay was a brilliant defense of free speech. But Muslims said it would not break the deadlock over the novel, and one reiterated that the death sentence passed on Rushdie by the late Ayatollah Khomeini remained in force.

Rushdie's essay, published in the Independent On Sunday, was his first detailed comment on the furor aroused by "The Satanic Verses."

since Khomeini's edict forced him into hiding a year ago.

Rushdie, 42, wrote of the pain of being cut off from society; the irony of being condemned by Muslims for a novel that sought to highlight their plight as immigrants in the West; and the anger he feels that the Labour Party, which he has always supported, failed to back him.

The Bombay-born Briton said his novel sought to create a literary language for "formerly colonised, still-disadvantaged peoples," those like himself who straddle different cultures — "a love-song to our mongrel selves."

"To be rejected and reviled by, so to speak, one's own characters is a shocking and painful experience for any writer," he wrote.

"I recognise that many Muslims have felt shocked and pained too. Perhaps a way forward might be found through the mutual recognition of that mutual pain. Let us attempt to believe in each other's good faith."

Shahbir Akhtar, a British Muslim, welcomed Rushdie's decision to publish the essay, calling it "thoughtful and unexpected." But he said the novel remained a "calculated attempt to vilify and slander the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH)."

Writing today in the Independent, sister of the paper that published Rushdie's essay, Akhtar urged Rushdie to "engage in dialogue" with those he has offended. He said Islam was a merciful religion, and "the magnanimity which has been denied to both parties may yet seek an occasion."

But he regretted Rushdie's insistence that a paperback edition be published, saying it would "fuel extremism in the Muslim camp. There may even be acts of political terrorism. It will be seen as a further provocation..."

Rushdie's publisher, Viking Penguin, says "no firm date" has been set for issuing a paperback.

Liaqat Hussain, general secretary of the Council of Mosques in Bradford, urged Rushdie to "be brave enough to face the world for his principles."

Another British Muslim leader, Syed Abdul Quddus, said: "The death sentence still stands on Salman Rushdie. It has been passed by Islamic law."

Newspaper Epikeros published photographs of the stolen weapons together with ammunition and handgrenades. It said the left-wing guerrilla group Nov 7 in a statement and photographs left them in a trash can claimed credit for stealing the bazookas and ammunition.

The World War II vintage bazookas were stolen by armed gunmen Saturday morning from an exhibition stand as museum guards were held at bay.

The paper said that Nov 17 in its statement also claimed credit for stealing the bazooka shells and handgrenades from a military depot in central Greece last Christmas.

The Defense Ministry said that the bazookas could be used with slight modifications to fit the shells displayed in the photographs.

However, the Nov 17 statement denied the bazookas needed to be modified and said they "worked fine and could be used for the launching of 2.36 and 3.5 inch shells which we stole from the military camp on Dec 25."

Vying for Asian leadership

China, India, Japan contenders

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 5. (AP): Goh Chok Tong, expected to become Singapore's prime minister this year, says China, India and Japan will contest for leadership in Asia if superpower rapprochement leads to a diminished US presence in the region.

"If this happens, who will be the regional leader then? I think it cannot be Singapore. It cannot be Malaysia either. It will be left to China, India and Japan to contest for the leadership of this region, assuming that the United States pulls out," he said in the Jan 19 interview.

Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's prime minister for three decades, has said he will retire this year and Goh, now the deputy prime minister, will replace him.

"There is this general shaking up in the world," Goh said. "There is this development in Europe,

I'm given 10 years

Jailed for going to North

SEOUL, Feb 5. (AP): A woman college student nicknamed "the flower of unification" was found guilty today and sentenced to 10 years in prison for illegally visiting North Korea.

She is the first South Korean student to be sentenced for going to the North.

As the sentence was handed down, Im Su-Kyong and a Roman Catholic priest on trial with her both shouted: "Wake up judges who ignore unification."

Some 30 radical students and Catholic priests in the gallery at the Seoul district criminal court yelled "release them" and courtroom proceedings were temporarily halted until order was restored.

The Rev. Moon Gyu-Hyon, 41, who accompanied Ms. Im, 21, across the border Aug 15 was given eight years in prison. He said he went to the north to accompany her home because she is Roman Catholic and needed support.

On hearing the verdict, students at two Seoul universities held rallies demanding Ms. Im's release.

Presiding Judge Hwang Sang-hyun found the pair guilty of making an illegal visit to the communist North, of contacting, communicating and rendering voluntary support to the enemy North and of benefiting the North militarily.

He said that when the two returned to the South, the followed instructions from North Korea to continue their anti-US, anti-government struggle.

"These days war is a total war which involves politics, economics, and other help. By providing the North with information regarding South Korea's dissidents and opposition and other matters, they helped the north militarily."

He said that when the two



Im Su-Kyong being sentenced to 10 years in jail Feb 5. (Reuters wirephoto)

South in 1945. Judge Hwang rejected the defendant's claim as being "out of context and unfounded."

The Seoul government forbids unauthorized trips to North Korea as a violation of national security laws and maintains dialogue on unification must be conducted through official channels.

Seoul to better socialist ties

SEOUL, Feb 5. (AP): South Korea plans to use this year's Asian Games in Beijing as a vehicle to improve relations with China, while seeking broader ties with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the Foreign Ministry said today.

In its first policy report to President Roh Tae-woo, Foreign Minister Choi Ho-jung also said South Korea would seek stronger security ties with the United States, which is moving to reduce the number of American troops stationed in this country.

"Major efforts will be made to improve relations with the Soviet Union and China," Choi said in the report outlining Seoul's diplomatic goals for this year.

The ministry said it will continue to expand diplomatic relations with those East European countries, such as Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia last year.

The ministry said it will continue to expand diplomatic relations with those East European countries, such as Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia last year.

Choi said South Korea would continue to build ties with the Soviet Union while using the September Asian games in Beijing as an opportunity to improve relations with China.

Despite a lack of diplomatic relations, capitalist South Korea has greatly improved relations with the Soviet Union in recent years, especially after the 1988 Olympics in Seoul.

During the Olympics, South Korea allowed Soviet diplomats to stay temporarily in its capital, Seoul, to handle limited consular affairs for Soviet tourists and games participants. The two

nations began limited consular exchanges last November.

South Korea now hopes to apply a similar strategy in its effort to improve ties with China, which also has no diplomatic links with Seoul.

In its first consultations with China since the Chinese army's crackdown on pro-democracy protesters last June, South Korea will discuss sending officials to Beijing in September to handle consular affairs during the Asian Games, the ministry reported.

South Korea, aided by its economic strength, established diplomatic relations with Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia last year.

The ministry said it will continue to expand diplomatic relations with those East European countries, such as Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia last year.

Choi said South Korea would continue to build ties with the Soviet Union while using the September Asian games in Beijing as an opportunity to improve relations with China.

South and North Korea, divided since 1945, have been holding talks to try to form a joint team for the Asian Games, but there has been only limited progress. Another meeting is scheduled Wednesday.

Choi said South Korea would co-operate closely with the United States to develop future security relations.



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Philippines Army raises bounty for Gringo's head

MANILA, Feb 5, (UPI): The Philippine military raised the reward for the capture of coup leader Gregorio Gringo Honasan to five million pesos (\$227,000) amid threats that a new rebellion may be brewing, and offered bounties today on 20 additional suspects in the failed December uprising.

Honasan and some 1,000 mutineers still at large are believed responsible for the coup attempt that almost toppled the four-year government of Corazon Aquino in Decem-

ber. Police said a 300-man elite police force was being trained in case the threats proved true.

The five million pesos (\$227,000 bounty) was raised by businessmen who feared a new coup attempt would ruin the economy still reeling from the impact of the Dec 1-9 rebellion.

At least 119 people were killed and more than 500 wounded in the December coup bid, the sixth and most serious challenge to Aquino, who was swept to power in a civilian-

Abenina, was captured Thursday.

National Police Chief Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano said the additional bounty money was raised by businessmen who feared a new coup attempt would ruin the economy still reeling from the impact of the Dec 1-9 rebellion.

At least 119 people were killed and more than 500 wounded in the December coup bid, the sixth and most serious challenge to Aquino, who was swept to power in a civilian-

backed military revolt that ousted late ruler Ferdinand Marcos.

Today, the government announced it was offering bounties on 20 additional suspects allegedly involved in the December coup attempt. Topping the list is Army Col Mariano Malajacan, a reward of 1 million pesos (\$47,600) was being offered for information leading to his capture.

In her regular radio call-in show yesterday, Aquino urged the mutineers still at large to

surrender, saying the constitution guaranteed them protection and due process.

"Step forward and face the consequences of your actions," Aquino said. "You are guaranteed protection and due process by the very constitution."

Honasan, who allegedly masterminded the December uprising, is one of 15 coup leaders who had a bounty put on their heads by the Philippine military last month.

Five on the list have been captured with the help of civilian informants who later were given their rewards.

The 41-year-old Honasan also led the bloody Aug 28, 1987, coup against Aquino, but he escaped from a prison ship in April 1988 with 14 of his security guards.

Officials said the elite police force of 300 men will join a 2,000-member military task force called "operation plan checkmate" to be activated in the event of a coup attempt.

LDP gaining ground ahead of crucial vote

Analysts predict stalemate in Diet

TOKYO, Feb 5, (Agencies): With the crucial Lower House of Parliament election two weeks away, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's ruling conservative party is gaining momentum towards retaining its 35-year uninterrupted rule of the chamber, newspaper survey showed today.

At stake in the Feb 18, election are 512 seats in the law-making House of Representatives which has been controlled by the pro-American Liberal Democratic Party since 1955.

The national daily Yomiuri Shimbun said its survey showed that about 220 LDP candidates were leading in their constituencies while

about 80 others were on the win-loss borderline.

The paper said the Japan Socialist Party, Kaifu's main political opposition, is likely to win about 120 seats, compared with 83 seats it held when the lower house was dissolved Jan 24.

A field of 953 candidates, including a record 66 women, kicked off campaigns in the nation's 130 constituencies Saturday.

The election will be the first major political test for Kaifu, who took office Aug 9 after his two predecessors stepped down over bribery and sex scandals in less than three months.

"The LDP now faces the worst crisis since its founding (in 1955)," Kaifu, 59, said as he launched the campaign for the ruling party, which fielded 325 candidates.

Despite a hard race predicted for the LDP, political analysts said the ruling party will be able to cling to power, but may need the help of conservative independents.

The LDP, which won a landslide in the previous elections held simultaneously for both the lower and upper houses in 1986, maintained an overwhelming majority of 295 seats in the lower chamber.

The party lost a majority in the Upper House for the first time since its founding in an election held last July after it was rocked by a series of shares-for-favours and sex scandals.

Japan's first sales tax introduced in April last year also was attributable to the LDP's election setback, political analysts said.

Opposition parties have vowed to make the sales tax a major issue in the Lower House election again.

In launching a stump tour Sunday, JSP chairwoman Takako Doi declared the party will again introduce a bill to scrap the sales tax in the Diet or Parliament, after the election.

Four non-communist opposition parties forced a bill to abolish the levy in the Upper House last month. It was overridden by the LDP in the Lower House.

Political analysts predicted Kaifu will face pressure from within the party to step down if the LDP fails to win a simple majority of 257 seats in the election.

Kaifu's two-year term as LDP president runs through October next year.

Most of the party's senior leaders were implicated last year in a scandal in which the Recruit Publishing and Telecommunications company allegedly handed out cut-price shares to politicians in return for favours.

Kaifu's power base within the LDP is weak as he belongs to a small intra-party faction and his fragile leadership rests on the support from other major factions.

By law, candidates are not supposed to spend more than 20 million yen (\$350,000) on each campaign. The law also stipulates how the money should be spent, prohibiting, for example, giving food and drinks to voters.

Bat analysts said few, if any politicians obeyed the law.

Political consultant Tatsuro Tanaka has drawn up a model 320 million yen (\$2.2 million) budget for a candidate running in a central Tokyo district.

It includes 84 billion yen (\$380,000) to rent three offices and a temporary campaign headquarters, 50 million yen (\$545,000) to pay staff and 45 million yen (\$310,000) for posters and leaflets.

The headquarters should be staffed by 50 campaign officials, five receptionists, 10 cooks, eight drivers. It should be equipped with 200 telephones and 11 vehicles, including a van carrying a loudspeaker.

Asked if the budget guaranteed a candidate's success, Tanaka said: "That is not enough. Triumph will depend also upon campaign strategy and tactics, political organization and effective use of the money."

Tanaka is advising 23 candidates, most from the LDP.

TOKYO, Feb 5, (Reuter): When it comes to politics in Japan, money talks.

Political analysts predict that more than \$2 million will be spent on each of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's 325 candidates in the campaign for lower house elections on February 18.

And that's just for starters.

Many candidates are expected to spend much more and one hopeful fighting for a seat in southern Japan is laying out three billion yen (\$21 million), according to an unconfirmed media report.

"Within the LDP it's said that five makes a 'win' and three makes a 'lose,'" said Japan Socialist Party chairman Tatsuo Doi.

Surely that a candidate spending \$60 million yen (\$5.4 million) would get elected while one who spent only 300 million yen (\$2.7 million) would not.

The LDP faces its toughest test in more than 34 years in power. Many analysts expect it will retain control of the 512-seat lower house but say it may need the help of conservative independents to do so.

Doi, the first woman to head a major Japanese political party, has repeatedly attacked the LDP for what she derisively calls "money politics" and accuses it of selling out to corporate interest in its bid to hold on to power.

Media reports said the LDP had asked business for 30 billion yen (\$2.7 million) for the current campaign.

Most of the party's senior leaders were implicated last year in a scandal in which the Recruit Publishing and Telecommunications company allegedly handed out cut-price shares to politicians in return for favours.

That scandal and a sex scandal along with a deeply unpopular sales tax and relaxation of agricultural imports, cost the LDP control of parliament's less powerful upper house last July for the first time.

Political analysts predicted Kaifu will face pressure from within the party to step down if the LDP fails to win a simple majority of 257 seats in the election.

Kaifu's two-year term as LDP president runs through October next year.

His predecessor, Sosuke Uno, stepped down to take the blame for the LDP's defeat in the Upper election.

Kaifu's power base within the LDP is weak as he belongs to a small intra-party faction and his fragile leadership rests on the support from other major factions.

The Home Affairs Ministry said there are 90.5 million eligible voters.

Many analysts expect the LDP to lose seats but hold a narrow majority after the election for the Lower House, leading to a stalemate that will bog down foreign and domestic policymaking.

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TOKYO, Feb 5, (Reuter): Welcome to Ikebukuro, a seedy district in northern Tokyo. You want a job? No problem — we need cooks, waitresses and "healthy men" to work in gaming parlours.

Wages? For a waitress more than 700 yen \$5 an hour and for a cook a holiday trip to Hong Kong thrown in as an extra.

The walls of Ikebukuro's bars, restaurants, pornography parlours, billiard rooms and gaming arcades are plastered with advertisements offering what is a fortune to most other Asians.

It is a vivid illustration of a Japanese problem most countries would love to have — it has more jobs than it

knows what to do with.

As the country's economic upswing enters its 39th straight month, labour shortages are worsening. Construction and manufacturing companies are desperate for workers.

The government's management and co-ordination agency on Friday said unemployment in Japan dropped to 2.2 per cent in 1989, its lowest level since 1981.

In 1988, unemployment averaged 2.5 per cent.

Japan's unemployment rate is one of the lowest in the world and there are more than 130 jobs for each 100 job applicants.

There is one easy solution to the labour shortage.

Thousands of workers throughout Asia, skilled and unskilled, would leap at the chance to work in the continent's most advanced economy for its highest wages.

Some businesses have joined foreign countries in proposing that Japan exploit this pool through quotas agreed with other governments, admitting a fixed number of visas for a set period, like Gulf countries during the oil boom.

The government is adamantly opposed. It argues that the country's homogeneity must be protected and it is apprehensive that racial tension could result from immigration as it has in Europe.

"As the world's second richest country, we have an obligation to other nations, especially our neighbours in Asia," said one government official.

"Can we discharge that obligation by giving aid or do we reverse 2,000 years of history and start to become multiracial? Is it a momentous decision?" he said.

Under current laws, the only foreigners allowed to work in Japan are skilled, such as bankers, businessmen or cooks who have to be sponsored by firms here.

Unskilled workers are not allowed to enter the country legally. But economics makes a nonsense of the law, with the number of illegal foreign workers estimated at more than 150,000 employed on building sites and in factories, workshops, restaurants and farms.

Romania to allow political parties

BUCHAREST, Feb 5, (Reuters): Romania's new rulers, accused

of bullying political opponents

since the overthrow of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, plan to establish a multi-party

democracy with a strong opposition. Deputy Prime Minister

Mihai Dragănescu said today.

Dragănescu, 60, told Reuters

the National Salvation Front (NSF), which took power after

Ceausescu was toppled and executed, would not impose

authoritarian rule even if, as

widely expected, it wins national

elections scheduled for May 20.

"If the Front wins the election,

I don't think it will be a domination in the old style of the old Communist Party," said

Dragănescu, one of Romania's leading electronics experts.

Many of the 30 or so oppo-

sition parties have complained

that the Front has an unfair elec-

tions advantage in terms of more

buildings and organisation."

The NSF bowed to pressure

from the parties last week when

it agreed to set up a council

of national unity within which

opposition groups would be represented.

Dragănescu described the

council to be formally instituted

on Friday, as Romania's new

Parliament.

"All voices will be heard and

will influence the decisions of this body," he said.

Dragănescu dismissed com-

plaints from the United States

that opposition parties had been

intimidated by NSF supporters,

and said Romania wanted

Washington to restore "most

favored nation" (MFN) status

which would allow Romanian goods to be imported at preferential rates of duty.

Surrender monopoly Soviet partymen told

Gorbachev's days are numbered — Yeltsin

MOSCOW, Feb 5. (Agencies): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev told Communist Party leaders meeting today that they must give up the party's guaranteed monopoly on political power, sources said.

Gorbachev, opening a crucial two-day meeting of the Communist Party's Central Committee, told the policy-making body that a multiparty political system in fact already exists in the country, said a source familiar with Gorbachev's speech, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Soviet leader urged the party to abolish its constitutionally guaranteed monopoly on political power, which has come under increasing attack throughout the country, said

the source.

The central committee meeting opened in the Kremlin a day after about 200,000 protesters marched in the streets of the Soviet capital, demanding that the party embrace radical reforms and end its monopoly on power.

Gorbachev also called for advancing to this summer the next Communist Party congress, theoretically the most powerful party body, which will choose a new central committee, the sources said.

The official news agency Tass said it was proposed to hold the party congress at the end

of June or beginning of July.



Hundreds of thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators gather on Moscow's Manege Square in front of the Kremlin (top right). (Reuter wirephoto)

Slovenia dispute worsens

LIUBLJANA, Yugoslavia, Feb 5. (AP): Slovenia's liberal communists have broken with the national party, declaring they no longer recognise the institution that has ruled Yugoslavia since World War II.

The move, yesterday follows disputes over the pace of democratic reform between Slovenia and archrival Serbia, the largest and most populous of Yugoslavia's six republics.

Last month Slovenia's communists stormed out of a national party congress dominated by hardliners led by Serbia.

The break is the first such since the communists took power in 1945.

Yugoslavs have been increasingly critical of the apparent inability of the party's fractious regional leadership to deal with the worst economic and political crisis under communist rule.

In an emergency meeting yesterday, the Slovenian Party also changed its name and called for the release of all political prisoners, an end to all political trials and immediate talks between Yugoslav communists and leaders of newly formed opposition parties.

Slovenia's Communist Party president, Ciril Ribić, said the new party was not seeking secession from Yugoslavia but the establishment of a Yugoslavia confederation that restricts central authority.

"This is the end of the league of communists of Yugoslavia, in which Slovenian communists had the status of an unequal minority," said Ribić, using the formal name of the national party.

The national party "doesn't exist anymore for us," said Petar Bekes, another Slovenian Party leader.

Slovenian communists, aware of rising criticism of communism in their westward-looking region, have moved quickly in the past three years to create a pluralistic political system.

Their reforms have been criticised harshly in Serbia.

East Germany forms broad coalition govt

Communists in minority

EAST BERLIN, Feb 5. (Reuters): East Germany's Parliament agreed today to include eight opposition figures in a new government of "national responsibility," in which communists are in the minority for the first time in 40 years.

In a televised vote the Parliament, or Volkskammer, voted overwhelmingly to approve communist Prime Minister Hans Modrow's broad-based government, intended to ensure stability in the run-up to free elections next month and to continue reforms.

"East Germany is no longer governable except through broad responsibility," Modrow told the chamber.

In his statement he also said German unity was inevitable but that it would have to be a careful process.

"Germans' responsibility ... should be shown in their growing together rather than being nailed together," he said.

At separate round table talks between opposition groups and established parties, Economics Minister Christa Luft resisted growing pressure for speedy economic and monetary union with West Germany to save East Germany's crippled economy.

Whether or not to replace the country's non-convertible currency with the West German mark should be decided in a referendum on unification, she said.

Luft also appealed for an immediate West German grant of 10 to 15 billion marks (six to nine billion dollars).

The eight new cabinet members co-opted to help steer East Germany safely to elections are ministers without portfolio, joining a 26-strong administration that took over from the old Stalinist leadership in November.

The new ministers include a



Modrow at a press conference. (Reuter wirephoto)

pastor, a church historian, and a human rights activist who for years dodged the attentions of the non-defunct Stasi security police.

They were sworn in by acting head of state Manfred Gerlach.

By taking their seats in government, the eight overturned the communists' majority in the cabinet. The other four non-communist parties in the cabinet had 11 of the 26 posts.

The opposition groups presented ranged from the centre-right Democratic Awakening to the broadly leftist New Forum, the umbrella movement that acted as a major catalyst for the peaceful revolution in October and November that overthrew Communist Party chief Erich Honecker.

At the round table talks, New Forum objected to the March 18 election date, now formally approved by the Volkskammer.

The opposition group argued that established parties and those with West German support, like the Social Democrats, had an unfair advantage. But, their application to postpone the election was turned down.

The round table also voted to oblige parties and groups at the

round table to stop inviting West German politicians to speak or canvass on their behalf.

With West German politicians turning up virtually everyday, it seems unlikely this resolution will be adhered to.

The Volkskammer later agreed to ban extreme right-wing parties such as the Xenophobic, West German-based Republicans.

A round table working group meanwhile called for an end to the persecution of former Stasi security police and urged state enterprises to stop refusing them jobs.

Following is a list of the new ministers, all ministers without portfolio (group or party and profession in brackets): Rainer Eppelmann (Democratic Awakening, pastor); Walter Romberg (Social Democratic Party, mathematician); Sebastian Pflueger (New Forum, physicist); Wolfgang Ullmann (Democracy Now, historian and legal expert); Klaus Schlueter (Green League, engineer); Matthias Platzeck (Green Party, cyberneticist); Tatjana Boehm (Independent Women's Association, sociologist); Gerd Poppe (Peace and Human Rights Initiative, physicist).

The two Germanys' dialogue over their common future is rapidly becoming a virtual monologue as Bonn openly calls the shots on what will or will not be done.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl speaks in triumphant tones these days as he dismisses East Berlin's proposals, eludes the communists for dragging their feet and points the way Bonn wants to see reform in East Germany go.

And step by step, with a reluctance rooted in 40 years of Marxist orthodoxy, East Germany's embattled leaders grit their teeth and drop yet another policy from a party platform that once seemed as solid as the Berlin Wall.

He warned that the party must reform itself or face losing its authority in Soviet society.

"If the party is not renewed, it will recede into the background," he told the miners, according to Pravda.

Yeltsin, in an interview published today said the Soviet people are fed up with Gorbachev and his days are numbered unless he looks for radical allies.

Yeltsin said the party must end its political monopoly, "the worst scourge of the Stalinist system."

Gorbachev has deceived us and only a radical change will save him from the abyss towards which he is rushing," he told the Spanish daily *El Mundo*.

"I believe his days are numbered if he does not ally with forces to his left... he is going through his worst period, his situation has really deteriorated."

The budget opt for continued modernisation of the nation's strategic nuclear forces, including funds for more B-2 Stealth bombers, MX missiles, the Midgetman missile, a Trident submarine and trident missiles.

The cuts in conventional weapons came more easily, the secretary said, because fewer such arms will be needed as the military force is reduced.

The army has argued that in an era of lessened superpower conflict in Europe, it now must prepare for Third World, low-intensity conflicts that require a lighter, more flexible force, as demonstrated in the Panama invasion.

As a result, the army procurement budget was cut by \$4 billion from last year, but its research and development

programmes grew by \$1 billion, in the interest of developing such things as a light tank.

Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the joint Chiefs of Staff, warned Congress last week the military spending must not be slashed, willy-nilly amid the calls for foreign-based troop withdrawals and tight budgets.

Even if Bush's call to draw US troop levels down to a span of one to two years, Cheney told lawmakers.

Congress expressed some impatience with Cheney's lack of information on long-range Pentagon plans for troop cuts and weapons programmes, with Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sen. Sam Nunn complaining of "a number of blanks in the budget."

Defence budget gives clues about how Bush wants military to prepare for future

WASHINGTON, Feb 5. (AP): President George Bush's new defence budget doesn't offer a long-range vision in a time of revolutionary change, but it gives some short-term clues about how Bush wants the military to prepare for the future.

The President made headlines with last week's proposal to strip hundreds of thousands of US and Soviet troops from the European continent. But his \$292.1-billion budget proposal also reveals a conservative, take-it-slow approach in many areas.

The 1991 plan takes only tentative steps into a new era with a modest troop reduction of 38,000 in the coming year, cutbacks in about 20 minor conventional weapon programmes, and continued funding for several futuristic

weapons systems from the Reagan administration, such as the Strategic Defense Initiative, also known as "Star Wars."

Dramatic change is difficult to achieve in one year, defence officials say, given the long lead time required to adjust high-tech weapons programmes and to reduce the military force of 2.1 million.

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, appearing on a national television programme yesterday, said it "makes no sense" to cut major weapons programmes now because we have to deal with Soviet military capabilities and not just intentions.

"There is still enormous nuclear capability" and the Soviets have not shown they are prepared to change that,

Cheney said.

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Sri Lanka pageant

A man dressed as Nilame, a past king of Sri Lanka, rides an elephant in the cultural pageant which

marked this island country's 42nd year of independence. (Reuter wirephoto)

Azeris accused of truce violation

MOSCOW, Feb 5. (UPI): Armenian nationalists, saying Azerbaijanis have violated a truce agreement by evicting Christian Armenians from two villages, halted talks with their rivals from Azerbaijan.

The Armenians said yesterday they would not participate in further talks because evictions by the Azerbaijanis authorities broke the spirit of an agreement reached on Saturday during two days of talks on neutral ground at the Latvian capital of Riga.

As the plenum began this morning, Gorbachev signalled in remarks published by the Communist Party daily Pravda that the ruling party was preparing to give up its monopoly on power.

The Armenian national movement board does not find it possible to continue joint negotiations," said a statement from the board, which described the action of the authorities in the two villages of Azad and Kamo as "attempted forcible deportation."

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Sri Lanka frees student detainees

Violence continues

COLOMBO, Feb 5. (Kuna): On a joint request made by Sri Lanka's university the premier body which administers the island's universities and the Ministry of Education, 344 university and school students were released yesterday, according to security sources.

All of those released were in detention camps and they were being held for attending subversive lectures, distributing subversive literature and pasting subversive posters, these sources said.

Some of these detainees have been in camps for over a year and have now been rehabilitated.

They can get back to their respective institutions without a problem, the sources said.

Those university and school students detained for the commission of serious offences such as murder, arson, etc., will be dealt with legally and their cases are being studied by legal officers, the sources further said.

Agreements reached during the consultations, including a joint communique, will not be ratified by the Armenian national movement board and are regarded invalid.

Joint consultations and talks can be possible in the future only on condition of the termination of such actions," the Armenians said.

The negotiations in Riga were brokered by representatives of the self-styled Baltic council, made up of the Popular Fronts of the Baltic republics of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania.

Popular Fronts are unofficial but legal nationalist movements that have sprung up in recent months throughout the Soviet Union's 15 republics as a result of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's democratic reform policy.

The Armenian and Azerbaijani delegations, which met following an outbreak of ethnic violence in both southern republics and their enclaves of Nagorno-Karabakh and Nakhichevan, had agreed to stop taking hostages and make every effort to settle their differences.

The two sides had agreed to establish permanent contacts in order to curb violence between militants on both sides of the divide.

A proven successful record in training and development together with an analytical ability and communication skills are the fundamental qualifications for the appointment.

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**Communication**

Daleges of the International Marine Satellite Communications, INMARSAT, are holding talks with Kuwaiti officials on means of strengthening relations. The team also brought a mobile satellite communication vehicle (pictured above). They also inspected ministry installations.

Divorces rise

By Sayed Othman

DIVORCE cases registered considerable increase during the first half of 1989, according to statistics issued by the Computer Centre of Kuwait's Ministry of Justice.

During the first six-month period, 1,453 divorce cases had been recorded and a total of 3,000 cases were registered for the year 1989.

Statistics indicated that 863 Kuwaiti men divorced their wives of whom 74 per cent were Kuwaiti women, while 590 expatriates divorced their wives during the same period of whom 17 percent were Kuwaiti women.

Percentage wise, Kuwaiti divorced women accounted for 53 per cent of the cases, while Kuwaiti males accounted for 59 per cent. Kuwaiti males who divorced their wives during the first half of 1989 accounted for 442 polygamous marriages reflecting 30 per cent of such divorce.

Most divorce cases could be attributed to incompatibility in ages coupled with polygamy.

About 36 per cent of divorces

occurred among couples whose marriage life was less than five years, 31 per cent whose marriage life lasted some months. Those whose marriages had lasted 20 years and over constituted for only 5 per cent. Most divorces were finalised amicably — only 408 cases were decided by the courts.

Ages of divorced women ranged between 20 to 29 years and ages of men ranged between 25 to 29 years with 382 divorces, 30 to 34 years, 270 cases and 35 to 44 years, 297 cases and those over 45 years of age, 265 cases.

Statistics indicate that 32 per cent of divorced women had an intermediate education level, 27 per cent general secondary certificate and 8 per cent were graduates.

Men mostly had either intermediate certificates or secondary certificates and 13 per cent were graduates. Education plays a vital role in bringing down the divorce rate, the study said.

Hawalli governorate topped the list of divorces with 736, Ahmadi 283, Jahra 211 and the Capital 114, according to statistics.

Soviet Jews

Iraqis oppose migration

BAGHDAD, Feb 5, (Kuna): An Iraqi newspaper on Sunday lashed out at the Soviet Jews immigration to Iraqi-occupied Arab territories and said Arabs are not prepared to pay the cost of world detente.

Al Thawra daily emphasised that current developments might achieve peace for superpowers but would push the Mideast region toward tension.

"Arabs oppose to be the first who pay the cost of international detente policy," the paper said, adding that it was not a mere chance that the United States closed down its doors before Soviet Jewish emigrants at this particular time.

The daily accused Washington of deliberately working for organising the Soviet Jews immigration and their settlement in Arab occupied lands at the expense of the Palestinians.

The Iraqi newspaper appealed to the international community to live up to its responsibilities and block attempts of further violations of Palestinians and Arab historical rights in occupied Palestine.

GCC book show due in March

THE Assistant Rector for Society and Information Services at the University of Kuwait, Dr Rasha Al Sabah said that the university will host the third book exhibition for GCC universities from March 17-21, 1990 as recommended by the Arab Education Office for Gulf states.

She pointed out that the exhibition is held once every two years in one of the GCC member states. The first exhibition was held at the campus of the United Arab Emirates University in Al Ain in 1986; the second was held at King Saud University in Riyadh in 1988. She said the past two exhibitions were highly successful.

She said the aim of the exhibition is to encourage the publication of scientific magazines at Arab Gulf universities and to urge professors, students and other educational establishments to take up scientific and intellectual projects.

The exhibition will include forms and copies of all publications issued by the universities like translated and written books.

Dr Rasha said that the University of Kuwait is also currently preparing to hold a regional conference on eradication of illiteracy.

The United Nations Education, Culture and Sciences Organ-

isation has directed the university to form a Special National Committee for Illiteracy Eradication in order to take part in the International Year in 1990.

Dr Rasha said that after students graduate from the university they will start a new stage of their lives. Therefore, the university is currently viewing the possibility of organising training and comprehensive courses for graduate students in order to qualify them to join the manpower market. She said that most of the courses will put more emphasis on a number of specialities including commerce, engineering, and oil related areas.

Amir contributed to Afghani teachers institute

3,000 'Arab' mujahedeen

HH the Amir has contributed to the building of an institute for Afghani teachers which is to be built on an area of 10,000 square metres, according to Majed Al Saad Al Rifai, head of the Islamic Daawa Committee at the Social Reform Society.

The committee built the first surgical hospital in Afghanistan and is staffed exclusively by Arabs. The hospital is located only 50 kilometres from Kabul. The committee has also provided for 15 units to receive civil patients and maintains border emergency points and 200 ambulance personnel within Afghanistan.

All personnel are Afghani nationals trained by the committee to undertake ambulance and nursing duties. In addition, the committee has 140 teachers graduated from the Eastern Institute who run schools and mosques within Afghanistan.

The committee was established six years ago when there was no charity committee to support Afghani mujahedeen and is presently engaged in carrying out several

medical and educational projects within Afghanistan.

Rifai pointed out that there are about 3,000 Arab mujahedeen fighting alongside Afghani mujahedeen, but only 10 to 15 are Kuwaiti nationals. He added that the number of Saudi mujahedeen total 1,000.

The official said that Afghani mujahedeen launched the war against communists two decades before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The Russians decided to invade Afghanistan when they found that communists could not control the situation.

According to statistics, there are about 6.5 million Afghani refugees of whom 3.5 million are in Pakistan, 1.5 million in Iran and the balance are refugees living inside Afghanistan, but in different areas. He added that the committee views the situation in refugee camps as still "very bad" and is doing its utmost to provide every form of support.

The committee is now making a comprehensive study in China to carry out a number of charity projects. There are

about 100 million Muslims in China and the committee's efforts to cater to this large number will be no mean achievement.

Rifai said that the committee has the largest network to nurse and transport injured fighters in the Islamic World. In addition to 200 ambulances who transport the injured in Afghanistan to the border health and emergency units, there are also about 40 ambulance cars to transport injured to two central hospitals in Pakistan run by the committee — Al Nafis and Al Fouzan Hospitals.

The projects of the committee are financed by Muslim and organisations in Kuwait and in the Arab Gulf states. The committee also has activities in some European countries to collect contributions for its activities which at the present time are concentrated on Afghanistan.

The committee co-operates with the Saudi Red Crescent Society and the Saudi Committee of Afghani Mujahedeen and Refugees. Last year, Islamic Daawa Com-

mittee transported 11,000 injured persons. The health units of the committee received about 700,000 Afghani patients during the last two years.

The committee has a medical centre in the midst of seven refugee camps, 15 intermediate and secondary schools, besides 30 centres for teaching the Holy Quran. The committee will build an orphanage house for which the foundation stone has already been laid.

Kuwait Zakat House covers 90 per cent of costs of these projects and the orphanage house will accommodate 500 orphans. It will contain internal hostels, classrooms and a technical institute as well as playgrounds and other utilities.

The committee is also executing the Eyes Hospital that includes eight clinics and the project is expected to be opened next September. A project to build an intermediate and secondary school to host 600 pupils is estimated to cost about 1.5 million and is to be funded by the Islamic Development Bank, Rifai said.

Sharp decline in fertility, birth rate

Literacy, late marriages responsible

HIGHER education, literacy and late marriages have significantly contributed to a sharp drop in fertility among women, both Kuwaitis and expatriates, in Kuwait, according to a study conducted by the Ministry of Planning.

The study, recently released by the ministry, says the birth rate has dropped in Kuwait in the last 20 years.

It found that Kuwaiti and expatriate working women are less fertile than housewives. It said this is the direct result of higher education and postponement of marriage.

The study found that most young people in Kuwait, both males and females, had the tendency to marry late, thus contributing to a drop in fertility among them. Fertility and the rate of birth drops sharply among educated women compared to the uneducated ones, it said.

The average number of births among the age group 20 and 24 was 2.1 among illiterate wives and 0.79 among wives holding university

degrees.

The birth rate was 6.83 among uneducated women and 3.42 among literate women among women in the age group between 45 and 49 years.

It said the birth rate, which was 45 per 1,000 of the population in 1970, dropped to 30 per 1,000 in 1986. The fertility rate, similarly, dropped from 7 to 4.4 during the same period.

The main reason for the fall in the rate of births and fertility has been attributed to a drop in fertility among expatriates. The birth rate among them dropped from 44 per thousand in 1970 to 21 in 1986.

There was a slight drop in the rate of fertility among Kuwaitis. The study said the maximum rate of birth among Kuwaitis was reached in 1975 with 51 births per 1,000 Kuwaitis. This dropped to 44.5 per cent in 1986.

The study said that the main factors for the relatively high fertility and birth rates among Kuwaitis include improved health

services, a rise in earnings and the age of Kuwaitis. Government incentives to encourage marriage among Kuwaitis, and increase the birth rate, was to some extent responsible for the high rate of birth among them, it said.

According to the latest population census, Kuwaitis form about 28 percent of the over 1.9 million population of Kuwait. The study said that the main factor in the drop of birth rate among expatriates was due to an increased tendency among women to work. It said that most expatriate women who came to Kuwait recently came to take up jobs and not to join their husbands. It said, the number of children joining their parents also fell in the past decade.

The study also said that 5 per cent fertility was contributed by women under 20 years of age, while women over 40 years contributed by 7 per cent with the bulk of births among these two groups was partially compensated among higher age groups.

best contribution, however, came from women in the age group between 25-29 years. It said that 41 per cent of drop in birth rate among Kuwaitis and 73 per cent of expatriates, is attributed to the "drop in marriage fertility," referring to the changes in marriage ages among both males and females in recent years. The average age at first marriage for males and females together increased from 20.8 years in 1975 to 22.4 years in 1985, an increase of 1.6 years in a decade. Similarly, the percentage of married Kuwaiti girls between 15-19 years dropped from 28 per cent in 1975 to 19.7 per cent in 1980 and further dropped to just 17.6 per cent in 1985, a drop of 10.4 per cent over one decade. The percentage of married Kuwaiti girls in the age group between 20-24 years, also dropped from 65.8 per cent in 1975 to 58.6 per cent in 1985. But the drop in the number of marriages among these two groups was partially compensated among higher age groups.

Crime File**Drug pushers jailed**

A MAN was sentenced to three and a half years imprisonment and a KD100 fine by the Court of Higher Appeals. The man was accused of possessing 200,000 tablets of narcotics for the purpose of trafficking. A pistol was also found in his possession.

A second man was accused of taking part in the crime was sentenced by the same court to two and a half years imprisonment.

Security men who masterminded the arrest of the first convict told the court they recovered narcotic tablets and a pistol from the accused. The defendant also confessed that he was also hiding a quantity of seized tablets in an old water tank and that he had given the second defendant an amount of these tablets for trafficking.

Money-exchanger acquitted

THE Criminal Court has acquitted a local money-exchanger of the charge of distributing counterfeit 100-dollar notes.

The court heard that a Kuwaiti citizen had exchanged money at the defendant's shop for Turkish and US dollar currencies. Subsequently, he learnt from the hotel management in Turkey that three 100-dollar exchange bills were fake, which he kept to return to the money exchanger of Kuwait.

The defendant denied having seen the plaintiff before or exchanging money for him. When the case was brought to court, the defendant was acquitted for lack of incriminating evidence. Further, court informed the wife of the plaintiff that he had exchanged US dollars in Turkey on two different occasions.

250 fili fine

THE Criminal Court has refrained from ruling against a man charged with possession of drugs hidden in his socks, but ordered him to submit a written pledge of good conduct for six months and fined him KD200 as charge for violating customs regulation.

The court heard that the man had his suitcase searched at the airport by a customs officer, but although nothing was found with him, the man remained nervous.

The officer grew suspicious and conducted a body search only to find a piece of hashish hidden in his socks.

Forger jailed

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man convicted of forgery to three years in jail with hard labour to be followed with deportation.

The court was told that the man was arrested on a liquor charge. The arresting officer found two membership cards with the accused — one for a youth centre and the other for a religious institute. Suspecting the authenticity of the cards, the officer forwarded them to investigative authorities.

Specialists at the Forgery Research Division at the General Department for Criminal Evidence said that the photos were superimposed and the seal was drawn by hand with ink different in quality from that of the original seal.

The accused confessed that he had stolen the cards from his cousins and affixed his personal identification in a move designed to provide him with some official documents.

Forged passport

THE Criminal Court recently refrained from pronouncing judgement against a defendant accused of forgery, a local daily reported.

The court was told that the defendant entered the country with a passport which had a page of another passport holding legal residence.

Although the court found the accused guilty as claimed by the public prosecutor, it took the mitigating circumstances into consideration in abstaining from sentencing the accused.

Pornography

THE Court of Misdeemeanours acquitted a shop owner dealing with pornographic tapes.

The court was told that inspectors from the Ministry of Information had seized pornographic tapes from the shop of the accused.

However, in his defence, the owner said that these tapes were seized from a locked drawer which originally belonged to a salesman who had recently been dismissed from services.

The court acquitted the defendant due to lack of convincing evidence that the tapes were indeed his.

Phone sets available

300,000 subscribers

MINISTER of Communications Abdullah Al Sharhan has said that the total number of telephone lines currently in service exceeds 300,000. That is a great number considering the population of Kuwait, he said.

The minister said subscribers can now buy their telephone sets from the ministry for KD 10 a piece. However, if they wish to use the ministry sets, returnable after disconnection, the ministry charges KD 14. However, in some cases the telephone sets were not taken back from the sets.

The KD 95 charges are broken down into KD 30 fee for connection services, KD 30 annual subscription, KD 30 as insurance from non-Kuwaiti subscribers and KD 5 revenue.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said this part will be utilised as set front for beautification and environmental purposes. He added that the project will be constructed on an area of 85 hectares and its population will be about 10,000.

The project will include the construction of two primary schools, two intermediate schools, car parkings and one mosque, Haidar said.

He said the project will cost about KD 80 million and will include the necessary facilities including schools, markets, gardens and health clinics, adding that project will be constructed on an area of 85 hectares and its population will be about 10,000.

The project will include the construction of two primary schools, two intermediate schools, car parkings and one mosque, Haidar said.

He clarified that this housing

Ropme rules out toxic waste report

KUWAIT, Feb 5, (Kuna): A Kuwaiti daily today claimed the presence of a foreign ship in Al Shuwaikh harbour carrying toxic waste, but general coordinator of the Regional Organisation for Protection of Marine Environment (Ropme) refuted the claim.

Speaking to Al Anbaa' newspaper, Dr. Badriya Al-Awadhi said that was confirmed through contacts between the organisation and concerned parties, contending that "reports in this respect are baseless."

The daily said it had received telephone contacts confirming that one of three ships left Gabon port to the Red Sea and was carrying poisonous waste. The ship was barred from entering Egypt, and left for the Arabian Gulf where it anchored at the Kuwaiti Shuwaikh Port, the paper added.

The ship was carrying freights of frozen meat to giant hotels here, Al Anbaa' noted.



Japanese dancers

Elegant, refined and sophisticated

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

MUCH of Japanese folk dancing can be traced to the chores performed by Japanese farmers over the centuries, it was said in the programme notes at the Japanese folk dance show Sunday night. But the Japanese women dancers, in their elegant costumes that seem to restrict their graceful movements, appeared to have little in common with rice-planting peasant women of medieval Japan. On the contrary, they were the very personification of elegance, refinement, subtlety and composure. But then one has learnt to expect sophistication from a country whose one major tradition has been to look for and create beauty even in most mundane of situations.

While women dancers of the Japan Folk Dance Ensemble glided on the stage, their fans extensions of their hands, the men, some in the ceremonial attire, with their war cries and ferocious beating of the drums portrayed dignity and valor.

Both were challenged by monsters, serpents, gigantic spiders or vengeful spirits that gave rise to more sword drawing, stomping of the feet and wild drum beating among the men and flute-

ttering and praying among women.

In an extraordinarily vigorous and almost reckless drum beating five men wearing scary masks took turns in bashing the drum, at the sides and on top, at times three of them having a go at the same time. As it progressed the number appeared to be more of an endurance test than a performing art. It did have a function though. In the ancient times, the legend says, it was a call from the god of war to his soldiers and a warning to the enemy. Today it could have a more therapeutic role, allowing stress-stricken workaholics to give vent to their frustrations.

Several numbers, performed by the Japan Folk Dance Ensemble, that gave another show last night at the Kuwait Regency Palace hotel, were based on ancient legends depicting the battle between good and evil forces. These dances gave ample opportunity to dancers, costume and prop-makers and choreographers to display their artistry, which they did with aplomb and flourish. The live accompaniment of gongs, bells, flutes, drums and shamen, a Japanese string instrument, enhanced the performance adding that extra edge to dramatic scenes and mellow notes to lyrical moments.



Spring camping season starts

Creating social awareness in family atmosphere

THE Social Reform Society opened on Saturday evening its seasonal spring camp.

In a key-note address, the assistant undersecretary for Youths Affairs at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Abdul Rahman Al Mazzou, stressed the responsibility to be shouldered by every individual towards protecting the wilderness and local environment.

Also speaking on the occasion, the secretary-general of the society Abdullah Al Atiqui said that the camp is part of the society's efforts to develop its social activities and reinforce its relations and co-operation with all social welfare centres in the best interest of the public.

He added that the camp this year will accord special attention to raising public awareness of topical social issues and propose effective remedies while providing a healthy social entertainment ground during the spring holidays.

A social specialist from the

ministry, Dr Abdul Raouf Al Jirawi delivered a lecture on the grave responsibility that befalls parents in providing decent upbringing and education to their children. He highlighted the common erroneous patterns which mainly result in the deprivation of the child from essential parental care and attention.

He said that other negative patterns lay in the misuse of overuse of punitive measures to deter antisocial child patterns which often led to the development of a sense of injustice and lack of confidence by children which led to the emergence of social animosity and consequently delinquency.

He also touched upon the chronic problem of reliance on hired household which gravely affected the children's social conduct and character development. He pointed out that statistic recorded of delinquent cases in 1987 revealed that Kuwaits formed 61 per cent of delinquents

while 54 per cent of these cases emerged during the secondary school education.

A social survey of existing government social institutions revealed the disintegrating family life and the absence of the "right example to follow" for children.

Addiction to liquor or drugs are primarily the result of a lack of proper family supervision, Jirawi said.

Camping, a time-honoured Kuwait tradition in which people establish close contact with nature.

Khaled Hasan in an interview, said that his family are frequent campers in the desert and have come to appreciate the beauty of nature and believe that these outings are quite invigorating. It also provides the entire family with an opportunity to work together by contributing to the day-to-day needs of the camp.

However, he said that during the recent past, the municipality had banned setting up camps in

pre-designated areas, leaving only a small area free for campers. This has restricted privacy and the involvement of various activities.

Khaled Ahmad, another camper said that the spot where they camp suffers from the absence of municipal cleaning services. Additionally, mobile grocers were banned from entering the camping areas. He added that the closest Bayan Supermarket branch had taken advantage of the situation and hiked prices of commodities.

Jasem Mohammad said that there is plenty to do out in the wilderness and everyone can engage in sporting and other activities. However, he said that reckless drivers chase girls and called for regular police patrols.

Mozza Mosa Al Asfour said that the municipality refuse-collecting squad were always there to keep the camping areas clean. Unfortunately, the distribution of garbage sacks never took place this year compared to

the excellent services performed by the municipality during last year's season.

Naim Faisal Al Inizi said that he would go out for entertainment on Fridays close to his house in Mishref and the municipality provided all required services, but campers were reckless and littered the area with garbage. However, he said that this year's camping season was better than before. However, he said that campers this year, contrary to all years before, preferred to camp in areas close to their residences which left the place overcrowded and hampered personal freedom — particularly for those fond of walking distances.

He added that camping in the years of yore was more fun as campers stayed the night in their tents, but now return home in the evening. He called on all campers to avoid littering, destroying plants and vegetation and to particularly ensure that all fires were put off before leaving the camp.

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and the Soviet Union.

More Tokyo delegations have been showing up in the Middle East of late. Japan already imports more than two-thirds of its oil from the Gulf, which also includes Iraq and Iran as well as the GCC countries.

The meeting, led by Japan's Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada and the GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara, came as efforts are being stepped up to bolster relations between the Asian giant and its major oil suppliers.

The GCC delegation includes representatives of the six member states that make up the alliance — Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

The GCC is an 8-year-old quest for a common market of the conservative Arab states of the Gulf, who sit on more than 40 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves. The other major oil reserves are in the United States

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and

various international economic blocs and powers.

The GCC countries seek to break away from being mere exporters of crude oil into developing sophisticated industrial bases with the help of the most advanced technology they can secure world-wide.

They also are geared to developing integrated oil industries from oil well to the retail end through joint ventures with the major consuming centres.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Naser returned home this weekend from his first official visit to Japan in pursuit of that objective.

Additionally, officials in the

GCC countries have been harping on the theme that without becoming a strong economic bloc on their own, they will not be able to stand in a world that will soon see other blocs solidified with the birth of a united European market in 1992.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

LET the people know the truth and the country is safe—
Abraham Lincoln, former US president (1809-1865).

OPINION

Lebanon needs a solution, now

ALL indications point to the fact that there are forces that do not wish to see the Lebanese crisis solved.

The question now is who is behind the disputes between the Lebanese leaders, including those with tendencies towards partitioning?

When Gen. Aoun's position becomes untenable, he simply gives the excuse that non-Lebanese troops are staying and this provides the pretext for the Israeli troops to remain in the South under the claim of fighting terrorism and protecting the Israeli-Lebanese borders.

Again when non-Lebanese forces remain in Lebanon, other Lebanese warring forces find opportunities for securing contracts to kill. Amid this scenario, parties backed by sectarian countries or those dreaming to secure a foothold in Lebanon find their opportunities like the Hezbollah which simply trade the Lebanese national security for foreign country.

To compound the issue, there are forces both within and outside Lebanon that want to maintain the present situation. It looks that even the legitimate government fears a decisive settlement.

Now, if Gen. Aoun concedes authority—which he must do—is there any guarantee that no more Gen. Aouns will come on the scene to do whatever the present Aoun is doing?

What would be the next obstacle that could be created for the invading forces to remain in Lebanon, as it appears that its stay is beneficial, if not the state itself, the soldiers.

Now, what really prevents the legitimate government to settle the issue—if it is really capable of doing that? They have the Arab and international backing and it has every right to take necessary action to solve an internal problem.

It is time for a Lebanese decisive solution, otherwise Lebanon will remain the 15-year-old misery of the Arab world, added of course to its other misery, the Palestine question which has been there over the past 40 years.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Soviets head for change

MOSCOW, (Reuter): The Soviet Union appeared to be heading with increasing momentum this weekend towards dramatic political change that could take it down the revolutionary path which has already reshaped Eastern Europe.

A flood of hints, suggestions and leaks from officials in the Communist Party and the state apparatus over the past few days on how the country should meet the challenge of the modern world seemed to leave no doubt the train was on the move.

In the course of less than a week, two influential figures have publicly urged more powers for "reformer-leader" Mikhail Gorbachev to enable him to push through a radical programme against mounting conservative resistance.

Congress

Reform-minded rank-and-file communist groups from all over the country have called on the leadership to bring forward to this spring a party congress already bailed as the one that will totally recast the structure of Soviet power.

And on Saturday a well-connected Soviet news service suggested that Gorbachev, in what would be the most significant departure of all, planned on Monday to propose an end to the party's 70-year monopoly on power.

The service, Radio Moscow's Interfax, said a draft platform to be presented by the Kremlin chief to a plenary session of the party's Central Committee would admit the possibility of a multi-party system and private property.

Even the official Tass news agency, which has sometimes served in the past as a conduit for conservative views, said the two-day plenum comes against the background of unprecedented "high political intensity."

The vital new element, commentator Alexander Minayev said, was that "the idea of radical political changes is coming from below, from primary party organisations and from rank-and-file party members who criticise the leading bodies of the party."

Foreign analysts said the power edifice likely to emerge under the authoritative if partial scenarios of the past few days would not in itself supplant the existing Soviet system.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1577 — Henry of Navarre is recognised as head of Huguenot in France.
- 1701 — War of Spanish succession begins.
- 1626 — Peace of La Rochelle is signed between Huguenot rebels and French crown.
- 1715 — Peace of Utrecht ends war between Spain and Portugal.
- 1778 — Britain declares war on France.
- 1819 — East India Company, represented by Stamford Raffles, establishes settlement at Singapore.
- 1869 — Greece agrees to leave Crete following Turkish ultimatum.
- 1897 — Crete proclaims union with Greece.
- 1899 — Treaty of Paris is ratified, whereby Spain cedes Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines to the United States for \$20 million.
- 1902 — French agreement with Ethiopia to finance railway construction provokes protests from Britain and Italy.
- 1932 — Fascist coup in Memel, Lithuania.
- 1952 — England's King George VI dies, is succeeded by Elizabeth II.
- 1964 — England and France agree on constructing English Channel rail tunnel.
- 1975 — Three paintings — one by Raphael and two by Piero della Francesca — are stolen from national gallery Iln Urbino, Italy.
- 1988 — Mobs of youths set fires and attack police station as ethnic rioting spreads through several neighbourhood in Karachi, Pakistan's largest city.
- 1989 — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze says no settlement reached after talks with Pakistani officials on war in Afghanistan.



Kashmir in agony

SIR: There is a sad and strange paradox in the way most nations and people react to emerging new realities that confront them in ever-changing scenarios and fluid situations. No one seems to be reaching out to get a grip on realities; nations and their leaders always seem to be obsessively disposed towards changing political landscapes with emotional zealousness and a rigid quest for the prevalence of the status quo. This frame of mind and "modus operandi" has done more harm to humanity than any other single factor. The determination not to change in the face of changing realities has led many a nation and people to the brink of repeated human catastrophes.

Take, for example, how colonial powers reacted to native freedom movements in Asia, Africa and other parts of the globe. Invariably, the colonial response was to inflict terror and destroy political movements for independence. And yet, the colonists could not seize the process of self-rule forever; indeed, their (the colonists) unwillingness to give in has led to a great many human calamities. Israel and white-ruled South Africa are still continuing the politics of colonialism and racism at a horrendous cost in terms of human sufferings. Still, unfortunately, the attitudinal change to accommodate political realities in a peaceful manner has not come.

Consequently, the sufferings will continue; however the change will come at great human loss. There is no stopping it now; such is the fate of the earth. It simply reflects the logic of events and the understanding of the human desire to happen. Period.

When the East Pakistan crisis erupted in 1971, the response in West Pakistan was emotionally laden. Indeed, India played a major political and military role in the breakup of Pakistan. But the role of India was not the fundamental question, or should not have been the fundamental issue. The basic issue was that the common people in the then East Pakistan at the time considered the political situation contrary to their interests; whether their perceptions were right or wrong is not central to the argument at hand. The fact is that the Pakistani administration and the people in the western province reacted with less than appreciable understanding of the growing discontent of the eastern province's political concerns. Hence, a situation which clearly had political solutions turned into a major political crisis for Pakistan, giving India an opportunity to exploit the situation. The Pakistani administration in Islamabad was overly obsessed with the determination to pursue the status quo. The requirements of the new political realities at the time were to reject the status quo and espouse fresh political perspectives in a nonetic and accommodating manner.

Kashmir is in agony now. Not because Pakistan supports the Kashmiri independence movement or a merger with Pakistan. Quite earnestly, Pakistan's support is not the fundamental issue here. At the nucleus of this political movement are the people of Kashmir who consider the present political situation contrary to their interests and perceive the Hindu domination as repressive and unacceptable. Consequently, the Kashmiris are rejecting the present political unity with India and are seeking self-determination.

The Indian reaction is to pursue the status quo at all costs. The Indian President, in a recent strongly-worded statement, said, "We will, whatever the cost, ensure that Jammu and Kashmir remain an integral part of India." It seems that, given the absence of political efficacy, the human catastrophes and suffering are about to be repeated in Kashmir just the way these scenarios have been repeated endlessly in the past.

However, the tragedy in Kashmir need not be repeated. For the newly-elected Indian prime minister, it is an opportune moment to preside over the future fate of India in a nonetic political perspective targeted at saving humanity a tragic calamity and an armed conflict, and resolving the crisis in a political framework. An independent or autonomous Kashmir would not smear the face of India's democracy in fact it would be a token of India's democratic vitality and commitment to resolving political conflicts in a political framework by responding to the crisis with mature democratic initiative and with appreciable respect for the legitimate demands of the people.

Such a scenario could not have been imagined or even conceived of under Rajiv Gandhi's leadership. Rajiv had to protect the cult of the Gandhi dynasty. Late Indira Gandhi would not have allowed any concessions to Kashmiri Muslims. But Prime Minister V. P. Singh has no dynasty to protect; he could be more profoundly in touch with the common aspirations of Kashmiri Muslims and prepare the majority Hindu masses in India to calmly realize that the demands for the secession of Kashmir are only extension of a world-wide historical political process aimed at seeking autonomy for repressed minorities. Respecting Kashmiri demands would only be respecting the inevitable process of political change which has been denied to them for a long time. Prime Minister Singh must understand that future historians would judge him not with what he did not allow to happen, but what he let happen and how he facilitated the change of the status quo to an energetic vitality of a political process.

By the same token, the people of Pakistan must very carefully react to the events in Kashmir. They must demonstrate admirable political maturity and respond to the Kashmiri crisis in a constructive way. The Pakistani people must analyze all variables working in the Kashmiri political arena and fully comprehend the role of different political actors. For example, the present PP administration and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, as we all know, have had no role in the making of the present events in Kashmir. But if Kashmir were to separate from India, it could add to the stature of the People's Party government and to the personality cult of Benazir and her dynasty. Hence, the present administration in Pakistan may attempt to manipulate the crisis in Kashmir to its party's and for personal advantage; Pakistanis must make sure that they do not allow the government to drag the country into a military conflict with India for the above-mentioned reasons.

We must also be aware that there is a likelihood that the Pakistan armed forces may pressure for an intervention in Kashmir to restore their lost credibility in the East Pakistan debacle. We must also be fully cognizant of the role of the opposition. Benazir's tacit diplomacy may be exploited by the opposition as concessions to India, and a weakness of her leadership. People in Pakistan must fully realize that they should not let their leaders make blunders at the cost of their country, property and lives. In the past, many leaders in this wonderful but unfortunate country have committed blunders for personal gains. This time around, Pakistan must not allow this to happen. Period.

We did not appreciate India's military adventurism in East Pakistan, and we should abstain from such a role in Kashmir—that is, in spite of the two situations are not identical. East Pakistan was an integral part of Pakistan, while Kashmir has been a disputed territory since independence. What Pakistan must do is to launch a full-scale global diplomatic effort to explain to all countries around the world the Kashmir point of view.

Kashmir is very close to its final destiny; Pakistan and all other countries must do everything possible for Kashmir to achieve its aspirations and self-determination at the minimum cost of human life, with the least possible anguish, and if possible, with no history of atrocities to be written. India, itself, could preside over writing this new chapter of a final tribute to human civility and generous political accommodation.

Dr Haider Mehdi
Shaukat campus
Kuwait University

Judge not

SIR: I'm writing in reply to recent comments by one Dr Haider Mehdi.

Every person has a right to their own opinions in matters as they see fit, and the "Letter to the Editor" column is a good way to be heard. But before a person does so, one should really be sure about their facts, this is especially true in regard to Islam, as this is such a sensitive matter and God has set forth His religion in the clearest terms, so that there should be no confusion in basic matters.

First of all, I would like to comment on Mehdi's letter about the value of Rajneesh's system of belief. In one paragraph Mehdi comments on how the beliefs and social system (free sex, etc.) are repugnant and disgusting to most people; and then in the next paragraph Mehdi says that Rajneesh never taught anything dangerous; that his system has some kind of value as a way to compare the values of the norm.

Without wanting to judge Mehdi, I would like to know how it is that things considered repugnant could be valuable, and also how Rajneesh's teachings could ever be considered anything but dangerous. Maybe Mehdi can explain why, towards the end of his career Rajneesh did a complete and total turnaround on his free-sex attitude, due to the widespread problem of AIDS among his followers, and "free-sex" became total celibacy.

In Islam we are taught that both of these attitudes are unhealth and dangerous — that a middle of the road course is the best way. As far as Rajneesh's teachings and ideas being of value, I fail to see any value whatsoever in leading people astray and away farther and farther from God's true teachings, as if most people of today aren't far enough away from God as it is.

The second item that needs to be addressed are the more recent comments of Mehdi with regard to the Pakistani People's Club. From the outset, I must make it clear that I am not Pakistani, and I actually know nothing about the PPC, and my comments have nothing to do with that organisation one way or the other. Nor do I wish to get into the literary semantics that Mehdi has chosen to.

The matter I wish to discuss are the strange comments Mehdi made. It seems obvious that Mehdi has made two mistakes, the first in his Islamic knowledge, and the second in the way he seems to be judging the motives behind this organisation's charitable goals and language.

I take it Mehdi is a Muslim, and as such should be considering himself a "servant" of God, as it is termed in the Holy Quran again and again. What does Mehdi propose? Perhaps he prefers "domestic helper" of God? I think it can easily be

seen how ridiculous this train of thought is becoming — and no amount of verbal games can change the fact that a servant still "serves" and obeys, and a "poor" person remains poor in spite of Mehdi's wish to make them "economically deprived." The common man has no need or use for such trivial pursuits in language.

Also, Islam has never forbidden charity in any form. Zakat is not charity, and has nothing to do with it. Zakat is mandatory and binding as a sort of "tax" (and I use that term loosely here) on one's wealth over and above what one's needs are, and is used to keep the "welfare state" running, in so many words.

Charity, on the other hand, is a voluntary donation of one's material wealth, time, or anything else. In Islam even a smile is considered a charity, and there is absolutely no shame in receiving charity in whatever form it may take. We must remember that this can be done in absolutely any way that one chooses, and nobody has the right to judge what is in the hearts of others. Only God can do that.

So, please, before we go and accuse people, and before we spout our opinions we should be very careful to know what we are talking about first, and we should never forget that we never have the right to judge, in any case, what is in the hearts of people, especially when they are trying to do what is considered good in the eyes of God.

Syed Iqbal Hussain
Press & Cultural Attaché

Appeal for funds

SIR: The Embassy of Pakistan has taken note of the letter published in your paper entitled "Appalling statement". We would like to categorically refute the implication in the letter that my appeal for funds for poor in Pakistan was made without the approval of the embassy. The Second Secretary (Consular Affairs) and the Community Welfare Attaché had a social party for the office-holders of sixteen Pakistani associations in Kuwait. These associations cater to the needs of the community in the social, cultural and religious fields.

During the course of this party, Afzal Noor, acting in good faith, made a suggestion that if Pakistanis were to even contribute KD 1 per person it could help the poor in Pakistan. The Embassy of Pakistan is used to receiving a lot of advice from Pakistani citizens abroad. However, this does not mean that in every case it follows that advice.

We wish to make it clear that according to the rules of the government of Pakistan, no embassy can raise any funds from citizens abroad unless it is for a national cause approved by the federal government. Only on rare occasions is such a privilege exercised, as where there is a national disaster such as unprecedented floods or vast damage through an earthquake. Very rarely is a charitable cause identified by the government.

Although the embassy does not raise funds from its citizens, except when specifically authorized by the government, every Pakistani is free to make a charitable contribution directly to any deserving institution in Pakistan. This is his moral right and duty as a citizen. In fact, we would like to point out that, apart from conscientious Pakistanis, many Kuwaitis make charitable donations to Muslim charitable institutions in Pakistan. This is done on their own and in the spirit of Islam which embraces all Muslims.

As the embassy has neither made nor approved the proposal, we hope that the matter can rest. Unless the letter is motivated, there is no need for a controversy.

Syed Iqbal Hussain
Press & Cultural Attaché

No choice

SIR: With reference to different letters which appeared in "Letter to the Editor" column regarding the fund collection of Indian Arts Circle (IAC), I am obliged to write the following facts.

I am a class teacher in the Indian school. When the circular was distributed about the competitions being held in the IAC, connected with the Nehru birth centenary, many of us objected to collecting money from the children in the class rooms. Even some of the heads of the sections were not in favour.

Nehru loved children very much, the children in return loved and respected "Chacha Nehru". His birthday is always celebrated as children's day in India. He used to distribute "red roses" to the children who gathered around him during such occasions. Here we were helpless when instructed to collect from children in the name of that great leader.

The reason for such pressure from the administration of school was obvious — the president of IAC and the chairman of Indian School happened to be one person. Most of us were helpless to such a situation.

A helpless teacher,
(Name and address supplied).

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Attack could hamper peace

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM. (Reuter): A bloody attack on Israeli tourists in Egypt could sabotage US efforts to convene Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Cairo, analysts in both countries said.

Masked gunmen killed eight Israelis and two Egyptian security men and wounded 17 people in a grenade and machine-gun attack on a tourist bus east of the Egyptian capital on Sunday.

The most serious assault on Israelis in Egypt since 1985 plunged the Jewish state into mourning and seemed bound to trigger a right-wing backlash against attempts to make peace with the Palestinians.

Affect

Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, asked on Israeli television how the attack would affect current peace moves, said: "It is impossible to advance a diplomatic process until we control and eradicate these centres of terror and violence."

A previously unknown Organisation for the Defence of the Oppressed in Egypt's prisons claimed responsibility, but Israeli security sources said the attack was more likely the work of radicals opposed to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat's efforts to engage Israel in peace talks.

In Cairo, prominent Egyptian commentator Ahmed Beha Eddin told Reuters the ambush appeared intended to sabotage peace efforts, and a Western diplomat said: "It seems to be aimed at killing what's left of the peace process stoke."

The attack could hardly have come at a worse time for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as he faces a showdown with hardliners in the right-wing Likud Party opposed to his plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Vowed

Shamir vowed to take on and defeat the rebels, spearheaded by hawkish Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, at a Likud central committee meeting on Wednesday. But opponents of peace talks with the Palestinians now have fresh ammunition.

"This disaster is bound to influence the Likud meeting," said Hanan Azran, Israel television's political correspondent.

Diplomatic sources said the foreign ministers of the United States, Israel and Egypt had been expected to meet next weekend in Europe to finalise arrangements for the first Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. That now seems a remote prospect.

Shamir's Likud opponents seized on the bus attack as proof that the Palestinians remained bent on murdering Jews.

"We can only see one thing — there is no change in the attitude of the PLO terrorist organisations. I believe these are PLO terrorists," Sharon told Reuters.

"This is an important lesson to the United States and free Western democracies that there can be no compromise with terrorism," he said.

Talks

EVENTS



Saaz aur Awaaz

Rhythm and melody combined to make the musical show by Saaz aur Awaaz yet another successful event. Well-known amateur singers Shahnawaz Karim, Bader Siddiqui and others entertained the audience with their rendition of songs by Lata, Rafi, Hemant Kumar and Talat Mahmood. The old and new melodies revived nostalgic memories as the singers crooned popular numbers, appreciated by the audience. Pictures show Saaz aur Awaaz members with their patron, Dr Taraknath (seated, extreme right); left Karim and Sabina; right Bader Siddiqui singing a duet. (Pictures by Javid Basra)

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING
9.30 Opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabah Al Kher, oews
9.50 Cartooo serial
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
10.30 Ghora Fi Al Madeena; Arabic serial (part 9)
11.30 Sabah Al Kher, oews
11.45 Challenges: Foreign cultural programme (part 6)
12.20 News summary
12.30 Sabah Al Kher final
12.35 Holy Quran and closedown

EVENING

4.00 Opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
4.45 Saham Al Fadha: cartoon serial
5.15 The World of Tomorrow: cultural serial
5.45 Night chemists, air-lines and official advertisements
6.00 Al Farooq Al Aashiq: historical serial (part 16)

6.45 Varieties
7.00 Our Children and the Future: local programme final prepared and presented by Dr Mohammed Jawad Redha
8.00 Made in Kuwait: information programme, prepared and presented by Dr Ali Al Damkhi
8.30 Good evening and local news
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Laaboo Fi Al Nar: Arabic serial (part 14)
10.45 Al Burkao: Weekly Arabic serial (part 8), starring Rasheed Assaf, Fadye Khatab and Waha Al Raheb

12.35 News summary
12.40 The World Today via Satellite
1.00 Holy Quran and closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
6.10 Diplodots. A cartoon series for children
6.30 Dartmoor. "Winter": The harsh and severe

winter in Dartmoor...A look at life and how people manage their living during this reason.
7.00 Peaceable Kingdom. "Sympbooy". After Courtney befriends a juvenile offender, Rebecca forbids her to see the boy again...Kate tries to convince Langley to enter a contest to conduct the L.A Sympbooy.
8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law. A weekly local informative programme. Law and regulations are enforced in Kuwait...
8.45 Coming of Age. "Cindy Flies the Coop". Cindy returns home with her two kids after being separated from her husband...New problems arise with the kids at home and with the neighbours.
9.15 The Story of Hollywood. "Hollywood and the Gangsters". Call it romancing the underworld. From the time that Tinsel town

found out bad guys were big box-office, cops and robbers have been shooting it out. A time-capsule of tough guys from Cagney's Public Enemy Number One to Brando's Godfather.

10.00 The Twilight Zone. "The Curious Case of Edgar Witherpoon". A detective is missioned to investigate a curious old man. The man tries to convince the detective that he is committed to fulfill certain acts to preserve the world...

10.30 The Silk Route of the Sea. "Pepper Coast of India which extends from Karnataka in the north up till Kerala in the south where it served as a linking point between East and West..."

11.30 A Man Called "Hawk". A rich man hires Hawk to save his son from a gang of South American rebels. Hawk discovers the reality of the rich man and his intentions...

12.00 News in brief
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite



KTV 2, 10:30 — The Silk Route of the sea.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Craft Centre
MOTHERS are your hands too full with your tots or week-ends? Here's a chance for you to relax and introduce them to creative art. For details contact 5635740, between 9-12 noon.

Seminar

THE seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening session on Sunday and Tuesday

6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration maybe made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah, Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

SOCIAL

Konkani drama
THE New Goans Overseas Association is pleased to

announce Menino De Bandar's "Sounscar Astana Diat" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaites) on 16th February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menino de Bandar. Tickets now available at Canary Video (Shark) and Video Clock (near G.P.O.). Rush for tickets, one show only.

Kuwait Little Theatre
Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmad, present the Kuwait Folk Group in concert on 14th and 15th February, at 8 pm both nights. Tickets can be ordered by phoning 3919759.

Videos of the recent very successful pantomime Sinbad the Sailor, can be picked up from the theatre on Sunday 4th February from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Sur Sangeet
SUR Sangeet presents Sitar Nawaz. Ustad Walton Dass nite, at Al Ramada Al Salem (Marriott) Hotel at 6:30 pm on February 9. For more information tel. 5615291.

Punjabi Cultural Society
PUNJABI Cultural Society in Kuwait is celebrating the 117th birth anniversary of great Punjabi Poet Padam Bhushan Bhai Vir Singh on Feb 9, 1990 at 6:30 pm; at the Indian Embassy Auditorium. The noted Punjabi writers, poets and singers will participate. Everybody is welcome.

Daniella Fasalabn
Daniella celebrates "Fasalabn" for Dance at Gazelle Club on Friday, Feb 16, at 1 pm. For reservations please call Marianne — Tel: 3710215 ext 29 or Winnie — Tel: 5733382 before Feb 13.

Carnival Fiesta '90

YMCA/Incredible S.C. are proud to announce their Carnival Fiesta '90 at Messilah Beach Hotel (Habiba) on Feb 22, '90.

Non-stop dancing from 8.30 pm onwards to the beat of latest sensation, "Hurricane Alley" and "Neighbour."

Highlights: Best Carnival couple (fancy) and many many surprises. For details contact the organisers on Tel. 2450279 (between 8 am to 1 pm) or Tel. 3921712.

Kuwait Welsh Society
ST. DAVID'S Day buffet dance Thursday 1st March 1990, At Messilah Beach Hotel. For ticket reservations & more information ring 3713467, 392384, 5623316.

Valentine's Party
VALENTINE'S Party: Come join the fun. Feb 15 dinner buffet-Top Ranks band, door prizes, Cupid's arrow awaiting.

For more information call Nira on 5339623 or Kathy on 5733992 (between 6 am & 8 pm).

ACT

ACT's production of Thornton Wilder's comedy "The Skin of Our Teeth" will be presented on February 27, 28 and March 1 at 8.00 pm at the Universal American School, Salwa. Tickets can be reserved by calling 5725071 or 5731782.

Kalpak's Drama Competition

KERALA Arts and Literature Promotion Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) is conducting a Malayalam One Act Play Competition at Indian Arts Circle on 9th February 1990.

Hobby centre
A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making — For more details call: Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

British Council

THE ITALIAN JOB: Saturday, 10 and Sunday, 11 February 6:30 pm, 11.30 min.

The title is Italian but the case is most definitely British. Michael Caine and Noel Coward star in this fast, entertaining comedy caper. With wild chases galore, the job culminates with the robbers in their mini cars using the piazza, arcades and rooftops to make their getaway causing the world's biggest traffic jam.

STUDYING, COMPUTING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE IN BRITAIN

Whether you want a short course, a 2-year diploma, a B.Sc. or a Ph.D. we have the information you need. Come and visit the Education Office on Monday, 12 February or Tuesday, 13 February and access our computerised database. Our staff will be there to assist you and help find a course to suit you.

II Annual one act Play Competition

INDIAN Arts Circle announces the II Annual One Play Competition to be held in May 1990. The competition is open to plays in any Indian language including English. Awards shall include Best Play (1st, 2nd & 3rd), Best Director, Best Actor & Actress, Best Child Actor, Best Stage Setting and Best Acting Performance from each team. Registration form with rules & regulations are available from Indian Arts Circle office at Funaites. Last date of submitting registration form with required details is 28th February, 1990.

Please contact IAC office (Tel: 3904817) for further details. All Indian associations engaged in theatrical activities are requested to join.

Singapore festival

SAS Kuwait Hotel will feature Singapore Festival on 21st and 22nd February at the tent. The oriental extravaganza will present lion dances, Chinese dances, finger painter plus elaborate buffet of popular Singaporean recipes prepared by Singaporean chefs. First of its kind in Kuwait, the show was put up in co-operation with Singapore tourist promotion board and Singapore Airlines and aims to foster closer relations between the two countries. Tickets available at SAS Hotel front office, Tel. No. 5657000.

Like a Hurricane!
SEVENTH Sky's Rock Concert at Al Andalus Cinema on 15th & 16th Feb '90. Featuring Rock, Pop/Rock and Rock 'n' Roll from the 80's. For information and reservations call 5730265/2543219.

7-a-side football

VARCA Sporting Centre will organise its 7th annual one day 7-a-side football festival on February 25 at Sour Grounds to mark the Kuwait National Day. The draw will be held on Friday, February 23 at 10 am. For further details and entry forms please contact VSC members or Tel. 5331940 or 2410461 and 4765070.

At the Holiday Inn Health Club and Recreation Centre
SWIMMING lessons available all year round with qualified swimming instructors. Open to non-members. Mon-Tues 3:30 to 5:30. Beginner-improvers-adults mixed keep fit classes, Wed 5-6 Thurs 6-7, Fri 12-1:30 and 1-2:00, Sat 5-6:00. Ladies keep fit, Mon 5-6, Tues 5-6, Fri 5-6 and Sun 5:30-6:30. Martial arts w/black belt instructor Mo-Wed 6. Taekwondo Sat-Mon, 7-8 Thurs 5-6. Bowling alley available for private company and community tournaments. Five squash courts. Squash handicap every Sunday start 6 pm - all standards, open to non-members. Squash coaching available from professional coach everyday, from 1 pm. Massage for men and women; gym facilities for men and women; tennis courts - coaching available. Plus lots more. Phone for further details — Recreation Manager, 4742000 ext. 6788 Julie Dent or 6700 recreation.

SPORTS

Coaching classes

COACHING classes for new recruits, who desire to qualify as football referees, conducted by the Indian Football Referees Association, Kuwait (IFRA), will commence from Friday, February 23, 1990. Interested candidates may contact D'Souza, Tel: 2402631-2; or Anthony Fernandes, Tel: 2445729/2431674 or any members of the committee at the Sour Ground in person for further information.

Qualified members of any Indian states' referees' associations and/or of Asian/European referees associations are welcome to join the association as members.

French festival

THE French Cultural Centre, in Co-operation with the Kuwait Cine Club, will hold the first French Festival of this year from Feb 11 to 20. Some of the best known movies from France will be screened at the chambers of commerce and industry auditorium.

Films by Philippe De Broca, Andrei Vayns, Rene Clair, Jean-Paul Rappeneau, Philippe Agostini and Sacha Guitry are among those selected for screening during the "Cinema and the French Revolution" festival.

The festival will open with Rebels, featuring Sophie Marceau and Philippe Noiret, on Saturday, Feb 10. Other films to be shown during the festival are Danzon (Feb 11); July 14 (Feb 12); New World (Feb 13); Reverend Dialogues (Feb 17); When Versailles Talks (Feb 18); Rebels (Feb 19) and 1789 (Feb 20).

The French Cultural Centre, which has moved to its new premises early last month, has expanded its facilities. It is open to membership for a nominal fee. Facilities include a vast library with more than 10,000 French titles; lectures each month on topics ranging from economics to politics, a video library with a wide range of documentaries on news magazines and other facilities.

The French Cultural Centre also screens French movies each month. This month's feature is entitled "Le Lieu du Crime" (1986) featuring Catherine Deneuve and Victor Lanoux. The film screening is open to members only.

On Feb 26, they will hold a lecture on Impressions of Vietnam, by P. Buord, who has spent several years in that country. It will be held at 5:30 pm. Open to members only.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus	Granada
Batman	Arabic film
Sakhalin	Selibkhant
Hall Booked	Spitz
Al Honra	Jleeb
Challenge of Ninja	Hoshiyar
Drive-in	Almadi Drive-in
Arabic film	Arabic film
Al Firdous	Fahad
Bhai K. Dushman Bhai	Zohar
	Asr
Fahsheel	Magreb
Cyclone	Isha
Al Jalsas	5.14 am
Daku-O-Darwish	12.02 pm
	3.06
	5.30
	6.49



Horse and carriage imported to Kuwait

THE horse and carriage considered to be one of the touristic features all around the world has gradually arrived in Kuwait. Children and adults are attracted to this transportation facility which is characterised by beautiful decorations.

A Kuwaiti youth imported a horse and a carriage from Egypt recently. He rented it out at the Oasis (an area which established by the Ahmadi government to serve desert campers).

The pictures show children enjoying a carriage ride and the Kuwaiti importer, Anwar Al Mawali with the carriage.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait	Al Watan Pharmacy
	Fahad Al Salem Street
	Al Mojai Pharmacy
	Abdullah Al Mubarak Street
Hawalli & Nugra	Al Andalus Pharmacy
	Tunis Street
	Salmiya & Rumailiya
	Al Shefa Pharmacy
	Salem Al Mubarak Street
	Fahsheel & Alustadi
	Al Wafa Pharmacy
	Fahaleel
	Farwaniya
	Al Hwaila Pharmacy
	Al Mustawsif Street
	Jahra
	Al Nahaj Pharmacy
	The Fourth Area

Thank you

WE, the parents of Sandra Fernandes extend our dearest thanks and gratitude to Abdul Raheem M Al Awadi General Trading and Contract Establishment, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Zakat House, doctors of chest diseases unit at Sabah Hospital, all the Indian schools, all the benefactors and friends who rendered best possible help in making Sandra's heart operation in London a success. Also, special thanks go to Kuwait Goans for initiating the fund drive and to all Goan clubs and

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Dollar closes lower

LONDON, Feb 5, (UPI): The dollar closed lower against the major European currencies today. Gold was sharply higher as markets anticipated the release of Nelson Mandela from prison in South Africa.

The dollar closed lower in Frankfurt at 1.6755 German marks against Friday's close at 1.6870, and also was lower in Zurich at 1.4840 Swiss francs against 1.4995, in Paris at 5.6970 French francs against 5.7130, in Brussels at 35.015 Belgian francs at 34.2625 francs against 35.24, and in Milan at 1.2495.

In London, the pound closed higher at \$1.6955 against \$1.6815 at Friday's close.

Dealers said the US unit was undermined by disappointing US corporate figures and predictions that the Dow Jones industrial average is heading for a fall in the near future.

In Zurich, gold closed more than \$5 higher at \$423.50 per ounce against \$418 per ounce at Friday's close and also was higher in London at \$423.25 per ounce against \$417.75 per ounce.

Following gold's strong surge, silver closed higher in Zurich at \$5.40 per ounce against \$5.30 per ounce, and also was higher in London at \$5.37 per ounce against \$5.29 per ounce.

The productivity of American workers increased at a modest 0.9 per cent last year, the smallest gain since 1982, the government said today.

Increased productivity, or getting each worker to produce more for each hour he or she works, is crucial to economic growth without inflation, especially given the current squeeze in the labour market. It also is considered a key to America's competitive position with other economic powers.

For the October-through-December quarter, non-farm productivity rose a barely perceptible 0.2 percent, the Labour Department said. Productivity rose 2.0 percent overall in 1988.

Output in the non-farm sector was up 3.3 per cent and average hours worked climbed 2.4 per cent, again the smallest gains posted in those areas since 1982, the Department's Bureau of Labour Statistics reported.

Manufacturers reported a 2.8 per cent productivity gain in 1988, close to the 2.7 per cent gain of 1988. Manufacturing output rose 3.7 per cent last year, down from the 6.1 per cent increase of 1988.

Meanwhile, unit labour costs, a key determinant of future price inflation, shot up 6.7 per cent for the quarter and 4.6 per cent for the year. Those costs, which reflect changes in basic compensation as well as changes in productivity, rose by 2.7 per cent in 1988.

Oman to raise crude output

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Feb 5, (AP): Oman's minister of petroleum and minerals said his country plans to raise oil production to 700,000 barrels a day this year, the Middle East Economic Survey reported Monday.

The minister, said Bin Ahmed Al Shafai, told the weekly newsletter's editor Ian Seymour that the 60,000-barrel increase over 1989 levels will come from the smaller oil fields in Oman.

The country has 25 to 30 small fields that have not yet been developed and the policy is to bring on stream progressively those that are easiest and least costly to develop.

Al Shafai also expressed considerable satisfaction at recent changed market conditions that pushed crude oil prices up into the target range of \$18 a barrel set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Cyprus-based newsletter said.

Oman is not a member of Opec but co-ordinates its policies with the world oil organisation.



In loving memory of

FELIX DIAS

Born: 7-3-1906
Died: 4-2-1990
in Bangalore.

Beloved husband of Effie, father of Jeanette & Charles D'Souza, Roy & Fem Dias grandfather of Neena and Leela; Anita, Venita and Warren.

OBITUARY

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World Bank approves loan for Uganda

KAMPALA, Feb 5. (Reuters): The World Bank has approved a \$125 million soft loan to aid Uganda's economic recovery, sources close to the Finance Ministry here said today.

They said the credit was approved last Thursday, in addition to a co-financing package worth \$60 million to which foreign governments would contribute.

Co-financing schemes that are currently under way cover programmes in agriculture, education, energy, health, transport and water supply, as well as macro-economic reforms.

The World Bank loan will be extended through its soft-aid arm, the International Development Agency (IDA), and is repayable over 40 years with 10 years grace. It carries a service fee of 0.75 per cent, but no interest charge.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have played a leading role in efforts to assist the government of President Yoweri Museveni to reconstruct the war-torn economy it inherited when it came to power in 1986.

A World Bank-sponsored meeting of foreign donors in December pledged \$637 million of new aid for Uganda, including 265 million from the World Bank.

This followed a three-year credit arrangement with the IMF last April worth 179 million Special Drawing Rights (\$237 million) under its enhanced structural adjustment facility, set up to help very poor countries.

The IMF loan supports a three-year government programme of reforms and development aimed at maintaining economic growth of at least five per cent a year.

This would permit a two per cent annual growth in per capita income.

Museveni said last month the economy grew an estimated 6.1 per cent in 1989, down from 7.2 per cent the year before, but more than double the rate achieved in his first year of power.

Korean firm wins Libyan contract

SEOUL, South Korea, Feb 5. (AP): Dong Ah Construction Co. of South Korea has signed a contract to construct a \$5.5-billion water supply system in Libya, company officials said today.

Dong Ah officials said the contract was signed in Benghazi Sunday between Dong Ah chairman Choi Won-Suk and Mohamed Ahmed El Mangoush, secretary of management for Libya's "Great man-made river" project.

The contract is part of the second phase of a multibillion-dollar project to build tunnels to transport 2 million tons of water a day from wells in southern Libya to Tripoli and neighbouring areas.

The signing had been expected since last September, when Dong Ah was selected as a prime negotiator for the project. The Korean firm has handled the \$3.5-billion first phase since early the 1980s.

Currency rates

KUWAIT, Feb 5. (Kuna): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and reported by the Central Bank of Kuwait today.		
Buying	Selling	
US dollar 0.29005	0.29120	
Sterling 0.49300	0.49380	
DM 0.74400	0.74440	
Sw. Fr. 0.19450	0.19500	
F. Fr. 0.50000	0.50133	
Lira 0.0003324	0.0002351	
Jap. yen 0.001984	0.002009	
Bar. 0.7691	0.7729	
UAE Dir. 0.07922	0.07935	
S. rial 0.07770	0.07770	
O. rial 0.07951	0.08007	
O. rial 0.7528	0.7570	

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Feb 5. (Kuna): Following are the average K.D. interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants in Central Bank of Kuwait today.		
Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-3/8	8-5/8
3 months	8-1/8	8-3/8
6 months	8-7/16	8-11/16
1 year	8-7/16	8-11/16

EXCHANGE RATES

Indian rupee 0.017200		
Sri Lankan rupee 0.007350		
Pakistani rupee 0.013690		
Bangladesh taka 0.008940		
US dollar 0.291100		
Pound sterling 0.493250		
UAE dirham 0.079220		
Deutsche mark 0.173700		
Japanese yen 0.002007		

Mexico, banks sign debt reduction pact

MEXICO CITY, Feb 5. (UPI): The Mexican government and representatives of private foreign banks yesterday signed a landmark debt accord that will reduce Mexico's medium-term commercial foreign debt by \$7 billion and save the country \$1.6 billion a year in interest payments.

The debt reduction agreement, assembled under the plan drawn up by US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, was signed at the National Palace, at a highly publicised ceremony attended by Brady himself, International Monetary Fund director Michel Camdessus, four US Congressmen, and representatives of several American, Japanese and European banks.

Citibank president John Reed, chairman of the Credito Bank committee that negotiated the accord, and

presidents of virtually all the 15 banks represented on the committee attended the ceremony.

Banks that did not participate in the signing will sign the document in New York on Wednesday.

"The accord is satisfactory," said Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari. "The renegotiation of debt is significant for Mexico."

Salinas, who assumed office in December of 1988, had stopped short of declaring a moratorium on Mexico's foreign debt in his inaugural address, saying that "the interests of Mexicans come before those of (foreign) creditors. The priority now will be not to pay, but to return to growth."

The Mexican debt accord, the first major agreement under the Brady plan, reduces Mexico's \$48.5 billion medium-term commercial debt by \$7 billion, saves the country about \$1.6 billion in annual interest payments and brings in some \$1.5 billion in annual new loans during 1990-92.

Under the accord, annual principal payments of \$2.15 billion over the period 1990-94 have been deferred to 30 years, and annual net external transfers are reduced by about \$4 billion on average between 1990 and 1994.

The historic debt reduction package, negotiated with the 15-member bank advisory committee that represents about 450 foreign commercial banks, consists in restructuring Mexico's \$48.5 billion medium-term commercial debt under three options: first, debt reduction of 35 per cent; secondly, interest rate reduction to a fixed rate of 6.25 per cent; and finally, new loans equivalent to 25 per cent of outstanding credits.

Of Mexico's \$48.5 billion medium-term commercial debt, \$20 billion has been restructured under the first option, \$2.5 billion under the second and \$6 billion under the third option. Mexican Finance Minister Pedro Aspe said that Mexico's total foreign debt will be about \$93.59 billion in March of this year. Mexico is the developing world's second largest debtor nation after Brazil's estimated \$115 billion.

Under the first option, banks exchange existing debt for new bonds at 35 per cent reduction. The special funds from the World Bank (\$2.06 billion), the IMF (\$1.64 billion), the government of Japan (\$2.05 billion), plus a direct commitment by Mexico (\$1.3 billion), which total about \$7 billion, will be destined to guarantee the payment of the principal of the new bonds as well as 18 months of interest,

thus improving the credit quality of the bonds.

With a part of these funds, Mexico will purchase zero coupon bonds from US Treasury, as well as from other countries, that will constitute an asset of Mexico and which, reinvested at a rate of 7.925 per cent per year for 30 years, will grow to an amount sufficient to fully cover the principal payments on the new bonds at the end of the period.

Aspe said that as a result of the latest accord with commercial banks and other debts raced earlier with multi-lateral financial institutions, the net transfer of resources on servicing the foreign debt will decline from about 6 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP) during 1983-88 to 2 per cent during 1989-94. Mexico's GDP for 1989 is expected to be about \$200 billion.

Aspe said that in March of this year, Mexico's total foreign debt would be equivalent to 40 per cent of the GDP compared with 60 per cent in 1987 and 57 per cent in 1988.

Although the debt accord has fallen short of initial expectations, Brady, Mexican officials and representatives of commercial banks lauded the new accord.

"The signing of Mexico's agreement with its commercial bank creditors is an important step forward," Brady said. "Significant additional benefits for Mexican people will emerge in the years ahead."

He said the Philippines and Costa Rica have made significant progress in renegotiating their foreign debt and that negotiations between commercial banks and Venezuela are currently underway.

'Sales tax must go'

Kaifu's fate, sales tax linked

TOKYO, Feb 5. (Reuters): Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is pinning his hopes in this month's Japanese election on winning support for a controversial sales tax his party has been pushing for a decade to impose on an unwilling public.

The long road is strewn with casualties, and Kaifu must guard not only against political enemies but also powerful rivals within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) if he is not to leave his bones by the wayside.

The LDP first mooted the tax in 1979, but it was a full 10 years, and several disgraced prime ministers later, before the measure went into effect last spring.

Its implementation, at a time when the opposition was already riding high over LDP involvement in a string of scandals, proved a key factor in dragging the party to defeat in upper house elections in July.

Polls showed the LDP, in total control of parliament for most of the post-war years, lost due to public anger over the tax together with the recruit "shares for favours"

sparked by an unprecedented television debate on Friday, the tax will again be at the heart of campaigning for the House of Representatives election in July.

Leaders of the four main opposition parties, with conservative Japan Socialist Party leader Takao Doi leading the charge, ripped into Kaifu over the LDP's refusal to repeal the tax.

"The LDP has lied about the sales tax... it told the public several years ago it was not going to introduce such a consumer tax," Doi said during the televised debate.

Polls have consistently shown voter resentment at what was seen as an LDP effort to increase the taxpayer's burden.

The ruling party has argued with little success that the three per cent tax, imposed on all goods and services, is a

stable source of revenue needed to reduce the budget deficit, cope with higher welfare spending for an increasingly elderly population, and avoid hikes in already steep income tax rates.

Opposition spokesmen dispute the government's projections, and say a sales tax is not the best way to meet the increased budgetary demand.

The average voter disliked the measure on a much less theoretical level — apart from fuelling inflation, the tax also meant an end to round-figure prices in the shops.

It hugely complicated traders' book-keeping and infuriated consumers, particularly women, who resent the need to carry purses full of tiny one-yen coins worth less than one US cent to pay for purchases.

Since the LDP first tried to introduce it in 1979, the tax has proved a curse to successive prime ministers, including Kaifu's predecessor Sosuke Uno.

Uno's predecessors Noboru Takeshi, Yasuhiro Nakasone and Masayoshi Ohira all suffered serious setbacks and major drops in popularity when they pushed the tax.

Takeshi, last of the three, finally pushed the tax through parliament, but the ramrod tactics he used helped trigger the slide for his own departure from office.

The LDP is in a bind, however. Failure to take proper measures for the aged, who could form the majority of a future society, might seriously threaten its long-term viability.

But the question now is whether the long-term damage will bring an immediate election disaster to the LDP.

Opposition parties are adamant the sales tax must go, arguing it puts an unfair burden on people with low income and sets a precedent for unchecked tax increases.

The LDP itself has already backed away a bit in an effort to revive its popularity. It recommended last December an exemption for the sales of food at retail levels.

Birth of German economic superpower awaited

BONN, Feb 5. (Reuters): Europeans face the imminent prospect of a new economic superpower in their midst as East and West German politicians press home the case for economic and currency union ahead of political reunification.

"It is a matter of urgency that we should at once begin discussions on a economic and currency union," West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher told reporters in East Berlin yesterday.

The flood of about 2,000 East Germans a day to the West — \$3,000 in January alone — is undermining East Germany's economy and forcing politicians to try to improve living standards to stop the rot.

"Help must come immediately, or even more people will leave," Genscher said.

Lothar de Maiziere, chairman of East Germany's Christian Democratic Union, was quoted in the latest edition of the news magazine Der Spiegel as saying: "The situation is so instable that a collapse cannot be excluded."

Economic union would give West German industry, Europe's most powerful, access to East Germany's pool of skilled workers and a golden opportunity to meet demand for Western goods and modernise a dilapidated industrial base.

West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel has raised the possibility of introducing the West German mark as currency in East Germany as soon as a free market economy is introduced.

Rebuilding East Germany's industry, Eastern Europe's most advanced but obsolete by Western standards, will cost huge capital investment by West Germany.

The payoff is likely to be a second German economic miracle in East Germany and a continued economic boom in West Germany.

"If East Germany really wants economic and monetary union after its elections on June 18, it will give the economy a job like the one we had after World War Two," Waigel said in an interview published yesterday.

Short-dated KD deposit rates steady

KUWAIT, Feb 5. (Reuters): Short dates were well traded in Kuwait's dinar deposit market while long dates dealing was quiet, dealers said.

Overnight and tomorrow-next and one week were unchanged from Sunday's 8-3/8 8-3/8. One to three months was also set at 8-5/8 8-3/8.

"The long dates market was quiet, all the action today was in the short dates," one dealer said.

Six months and one year were set 8-3/8 1/2 from Sunday's 8-7/16 11/16. The Central Bank adjusted its dinar exchange rate to 0.29030/40 to the dollar from Sunday's 0.29060/70.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposit rates were steady to easier in a fairly active market today, dealers said.

They said mainly short-dates, one and two month maturities were traded and adequate liquidity remained in the system.

Spot-next, value date Wednesday, was seen around 7-3/8, 6-7/8 per cent and one week around 7-5/8, 1/4.

Nikkei stock average: 3763.41 (+1.74)		

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Happy birthday



Ibrahim Ziaudeen turns 4 today February 6.



Aisha Amin turned 4 on February 5



Divya Kakuzhiyil turned 3 on February 3



Shayne De Cunha turned 5 on February 5



Roshani Ranawaka turns 15 on February 7



Kingsley Kanagaraj turned 11 on February 1



Lakshmi Narayanaswami turns 5 on February 7



Mirza Baig turned 7 on January 29



Krisantha Perera turned 1 on February 5.



Haneen Ghabra turns 9 today February 6.



Russell Rodrigues turns 8 on February 7.



Paarison Rayan turned 8 on February 5



Maher Gazdar turned 8 on February 1.



Islam and Aaya El Khatib turned 2 on February 3



Firdoose Khijershaikusman turned 1 recently

What are they doing?

Colour in the pictures and fill in the space below each.



The hippopotamus is _____

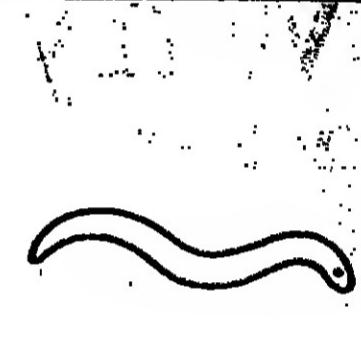
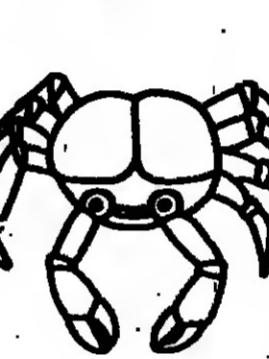
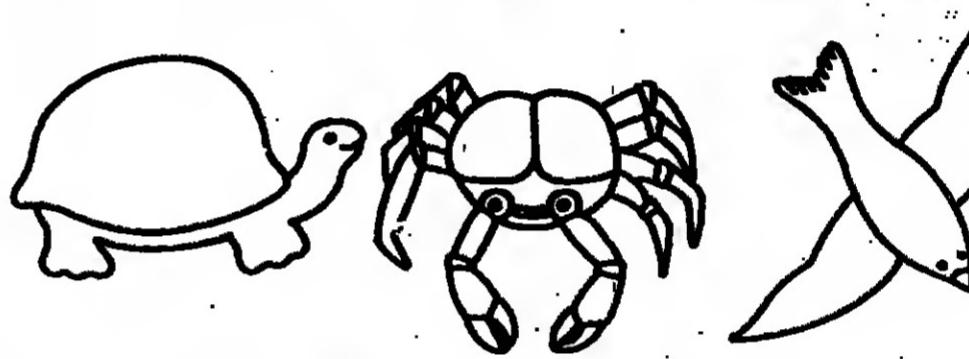
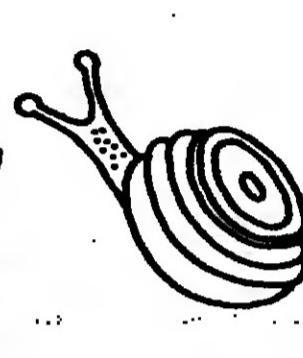
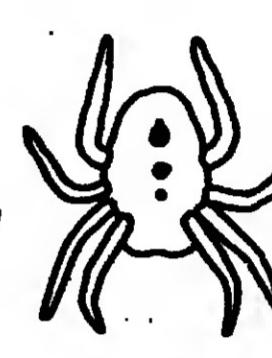
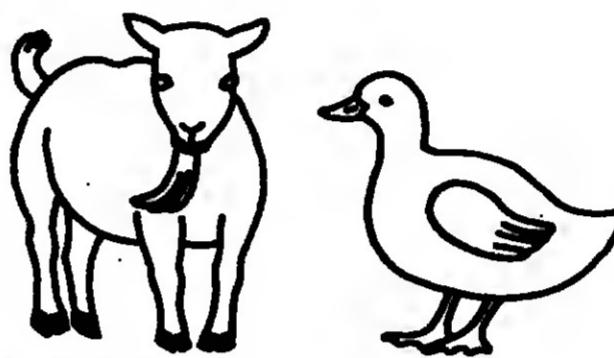


The panda is _____



The ostrich is _____

Fast

Colour the **fastest** animal in each group.

Variety

Bestsellers' list Dalgliesh makes a comeback

Fiction

- A Raging Passion — Judith Michael (No. 9 last week — 5,137 copies ordered)
- The Great Waldo Search — Martin Handford (3 — 4,179)
- The Bad Place — Dean Koontz (1 — 3,809)
- Vincent — Thomas Pynchon (7 — 2,673)
- Hausfrau — Robin Cook (2 — 2,641)
- The Great and Secret Show — Clive Barker (6 — 2,497)
- Cold Harbour — Jack Higgins (4 — 2,1973)
- Counterattack — W.E.B. Griffin (1,973)
- White Ninja — Eric Van Lustbader (8 — 1,866)
- Where's Waldo? — Martin Handford (10 — 1,766)

Non-Fiction

- Barbarians at the Gate — Bryan Burrough & John Helyar (8 — 3,846)
- Megatrends 2000 — John Naisht & Patricia Aburdene (2 — 3,714)
- Liar's Poker — Michael Lewis (3 — 3,371)
- Wealth Without Risk — Charles Givens (4 — 2,285)
- It Was On Fire When I Lay Down On It — Robert Fulghum (7 — 1,853)
- The Tempting of America — Robert Bork (1 — 1,806)
- The Emperor's New Mind — Roger Penrose (10 — 1,741)
- All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten — Robert Fulghum (6 — 1,512)
- Cuckoo's Egg — Clifford Stoll (5 — 1,331)
- The Language of Flowers — Sheila Pickles (1,326)

Mass Paperbacks

- The Gimpinger — Stephen King (10 — 5,701)
- Web of Deceit — V.C. Andrews (8 — 5,439)
- Mutation — Robin Cook (5,331)
- Born on the Fourth of July — Ron Kovic (3 — 4,481)
- Desperado's Drug Wars — Elaine Shannon (4 — 4,431)
- All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten — Robert Fulghum (1 — 4,168)
- How to Win at Nintendo Games Vol. 2 — Jeff Rovin (3,953)
- Too Deep for Tears — Kathryn Lynn Davis (3,185)
- Night Storm — Catherine Coulter (3,091)
- New Kids on the Block — Grace Catalano (9 — 2,839)

Trade Paperbacks

- Fifty Simple Things You Can Do to Save the Earth — Earthworks Project (2 — 9,883)
- Compute's guide to Nintendo Games — Steven Schwartz (5,117)
- Birnbaum's Walt Disney World 1990 — Steve Birnbaum (303)
- The Prehistory of the Far Side, 10th Anniversary Edition — Gary Larson (3 — 3,866)
- The New Basics Cookbook — Julie Rosso & Sheila Lukins (3 — 028)
- Love You Forever — Robert Munsch (8 — 2,935)
- Codependent No More — Melody Beattie (7 — 2,410)
- One Up on Wall Street — Peter Lynch (2,304)
- Healing the Shame that Binds — John Bradshaw (5 — 2,273)
- The T-Factor Gram Counter — Martin Katahn (10 — 2,263)

Rankings based on orders from Ingram Book Co. from more than 7,000 books nationwide.

DEVICES AND DESIRES by P.D. James (Knopf, 433 pp., \$19.95)

gling to raise four children after the death of his wife.

As usual, James is superb at characterisation, letting readers into the lives of the characters. This is always the most pleasant part of reading her work.

Still, "Devices and Desires" takes some effort to get into.

Perhaps because of the large number of characters, perhaps because of the technical language about how a nuclear power station works, the book doesn't always crackle the way the best of James does. In the end, however, she comes through with a first rate mystery that is, as always, much more. (UPI)

EMPEROR OF AMERICA, by Richard Condon (Simon and Schuster)

Even after 25 books, Richard Condon apparently has a thing or two to learn about writing political satire.

For one thing, it ought to be funny.

For another, it ought to be incisive and thought-provoking. "Emperor of America" is none of those, and less.

Condon's novel is the tale of a successful but naive and manipulative army officer, Cesare Appleton, hero of the defence of (in the first 26 pages) Portugal, Hungary, Southeast Asia and Argentina against the maraud-

ing Nicaraguan Sandinista hordes.

Appleton is elevated by a succession of improbable circumstances — including the nuclear incineration of the district of Columbia to the throne of the American empire.

The real power, though, is held by the fabulously rich royalists, who take the Reagan revolution to what they consider its logical extreme in an effort to, as the most sinister of these characters repeatedly puts it, "Get The

Certainly, Ronald Reagan, as a major figure in recent history, remains fair game for political satire.

But Garry Trudeau, Mark Russell and their contemporaries have nothing to fear from this artless, puerile exercise in Reagan bashing.

It is not clever. It is not funny. It is not incisive.

It is redundant. It is didactic. It is largely boring and dumb. It is, in places, ineptly written and evidently unedited.

It is not worth your time. (UPI)

MISTLETOE MYSTERIES, collected by Charlotte MacLeod (Mysterious Press)

If your Christmas didn't live up to your expectations, spare some pity for the poor people in

Charlotte MacLeod's short story collection. Instead of carols they all got crime, mostly murder.

The stories in "Mistletoe Mysteries" were "written expressly for this anthology," something that often translates into buyer beware. Not in this case.

MacLeod has gathered entries from the likes of Isaac Asimov and Mary Higgins Clark; from Marcia Muller and Howard Engel. She has put one of her own under the tree as well, and each is a pleasure to open.

If you like mysteries and didn't get suitable reading matter from Santa, treat yourself to this book. (UPI)

OUTLAW, by Warren Kiefer

The key to enjoying "Outlaw," a wonderfully moving and thoroughly engrossing novel by Warren Kiefer, is to prepare for the experience by insisting on privacy while reading. You'll learn to resent interruption and to love isolation with this well-crafted historical fiction.

The story is told in the first person, with 99-year-old Lee Garland beginning with Apaches killing his parents in his native New Mexico. He then proceeds to detail a life as a cowboy/cattle-rustler, mercenary, banker, oilman, lover, loyal friend and vicious enemy.

CHARLOTTE MACLEOD

and also appears on "Reunion," the stunning new recording by former boss Gary Burton, with whom he will tour for three weeks this spring for the first time in 14 years.

A trio album, "parallel realities," with drummer Jack DeJohnette and pianist Herbie Hancock will be released in April and followed with a two-month summer tour with DeJohnette, Hancock and bassist Dave Holland.

Metheny recently recorded with Brazilian guitarist Tortinho Horta

and also appears on "reunion," the stunning new recording by former boss Gary Burton, with whom he will tour for three weeks this spring for the first time in 14 years.

A trio album, "parallel realities," with drummer Jack DeJohnette and pianist Herbie Hancock will be released in April and followed with a two-month summer tour with DeJohnette, Hancock and bassist Dave Holland.

Metheny co-produced the DeJohnette session and wrote four of the times. "Jack's idea was to cover a lot of musical ground — straight-ahead, free stuff, melodic stuff and a lot of Syncopated work. It was such a blast," Metheny says.

"I don't think it is an earth-shattering record. There are no new concepts, but it is real solid. With lots of listening, you hear a lot of things on there you don't hear the first time."

Jack and I prepared the music together, knowing herbie could just come in and play. It almost doesn't matter what he plays in terms of notes. His sound and touch and feel are at such a high level, there are so many things going on there."

Metheny is uncomfortable with the "fusion" label that dogs his highly improvised music.

"I hate the term," he says. "I always have. It is such a strange word. That ever before in the past is incorrect to me. In the whole history of jazz, there is a clear and strong tradition of people using whatever sources they could when playing. This is a critical element in jazz."

"Jazz guys were always the first to adapt to new things. The drum set, the saxophone, the synthesizer. What we are doing particularly with my band, is just an extension of that tradition."

Metheny splits his playing between acoustic and electric guitars and a synthesizer-enhanced guitar that is linked to a synthesizer digital music system.

The electronic enhancements open up a lot of possibilities, but

Metheny says it takes a lot of work to iron out developmental bugs in the equipment.

"These things have a very limited dynamic range in their out-of-the

box stage. You have to work harder to make them sound good. You are

what the audience is hearing, which means the conception has to be

twice as strong to make the trip."

How cars, coal choke Europeans

DUBLIN. (Reuters): Smog blanketing Dublin became so thick that midday looked more like midnight on its gloomy streets.

In Athens, a filthy brown cloud hovers almost daily over the ancient city, sending the elderly to hospitals in droves.

In Milan, the mayor banned lorries, urged motorists to abandon their cars and told people to turn down their heating.

Across the heavily industrialised and densely populated countries of Western Europe, cars and coal are the main cause of the smog poisoning the air.

But their problems pale in comparison with the environmental headaches of Eastern Europe, shaking off communism and battling to establish market-oriented economies but facing colossal

pollution problems that have been ignored for years.

A one-hour stroll in Budapest is said to be as bad for your lungs as a pack of cigarettes. Broadcasts regularly warn against taking children outdoors during winter smogs.

In the grimy East German city of Bitterfeld, the air is so bad that schoolchildren are sent to a Baltic resort for a month every year to breathe freely again.

Prague's Hradcany Castle gives a panoramic view of the heavy smog floating over the Czechoslovakian capital on all but the windiest of days.

In the medieval Polish City of Krakow, the faces on the ancient sandstone statues have crumpled away amid the fumes from a giant steel mill.

Pollution knows no frontiers and the

problem, as a Reuter survey across the capitals of Europe showed, is finding enough money combined with enough political will to eradicate the choking clouds poisoning millions of people.

Rainer Feiermann, environmental commissioner in Bitterfeld, put the case succinctly for Eastern Europe when reviving controls at its antiquated plants.

"Trying to put Western anti-pollution devices on these factories would be like putting a gold watch on the wrist of a corpse," he said.

The main smog culprit in Hungarian streets is its ageing stock of East bloc cars which on average are about nine years old. Spreading the use of lead-free petrol and introducing catalytic converters appear to have been stalled for lack of

resources.

Krakow is on a United Nations list of treasures of humanity's heritage. Local authorities have ordered the steel mill there to reduce its production by a third but that could take years.

Pollution has fallen by 20 per cent in Warsaw since January 1 when the government doubled the price of petrol, forcing many drivers to use public transport.

West European governments have also had to take drastic measures to curb the excesses of affluent car owners.

When Milan Mayor Paolo Pillitteri introduced an experimental Sunday ban on all cars, pollution was cut by a third and citizens took to the streets

skateboards, busses and bicycles.

Car fumes and industrial emissions trapped within the ring of hills surround

Athens forced the government to take emergency measures — banning private cars from the city centre, closing schools and cutting industrial fuel consumption by half.

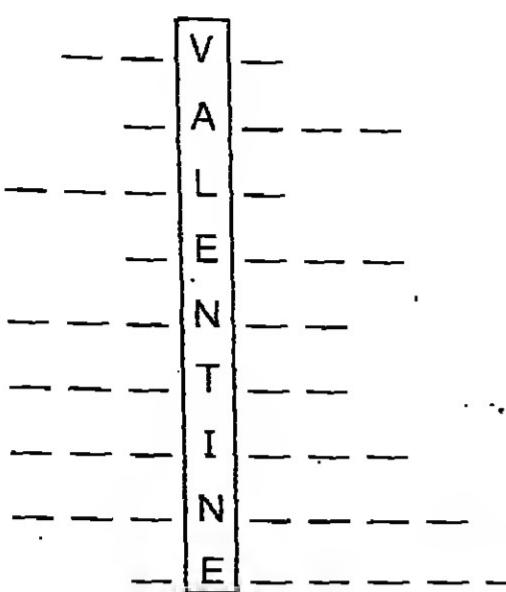
Athens wants to host the 1996 Olympics. A Soviet marathon runner competing in the European championships there gave his verdict: "My lungs burn. It is a crime that races take place in such a dirty atmosphere."

Ireland had pledged to make the environment a top priority during its current six-month presidency of the European Economic Community.

Environment minister Padraig Flynn matched the promise with a one billion punt (\$1.5 billion) package of measures to clean up the "Emerald Isle."

February Spaces

Directions: Place the words from the word list below in the spaces. Place one letter in each blank. Use each word only once.



Word List:
friends
love
holiday
cards
groundhog



heart
February
Lincoln
Washington

Why Ma?

Why Ma, Why Ma,
why is this,
why do I ask questions,
and get all in a tiz.

I don't know all the answers,
I'm sure that you do though,
so that is why I'm asking so many in a row.

It's the only way I learn Ma,
to go non stop talk all day;
but Ma I'm oh so grateful,
that you listen to me that way.

Julie Hodgson.

If the sky is blue and grass is green,
then why are cows so brown?
why aren't they as green as the grass that they eat,
which is always gobbled down.

It's plain to see, the more you ask,
the more you want to learn,
and I ask and ask, and never tire,
of the things that make me yearn.

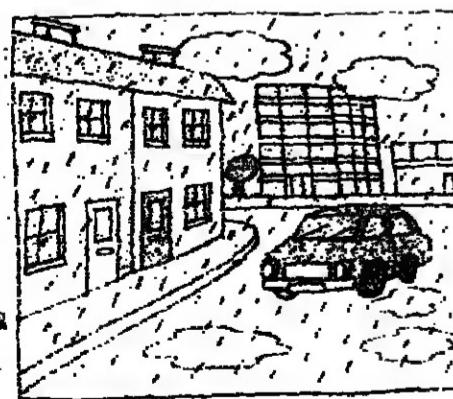
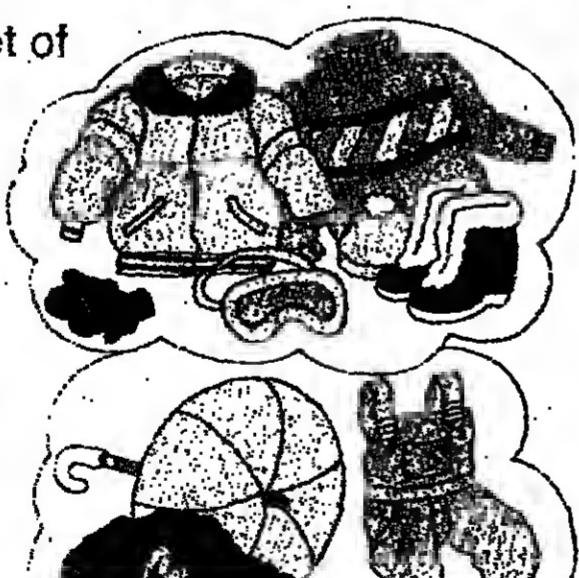


Join the science gang

My clothes

Which sorts of weather do you think these clothes are for?

Draw lines from each set of clothes to the right weather pictures.



Note to Parents
The classification of weather as hot, cold or wet can be extended to include hot wet weather, cold wet weather, cold sunny weather etc. Discuss how your child might feel if he/she went out dressed for the wrong sort of weather.

Wordsearch
SHAKESPEARE

ACTOR	LONDON
ANNE (wife)	MARY (mother)
APRIL (born & died)	MASTERY
AVON	PLAYWRIGHT
BACON	POET
BEST	QUOTED
BURBAGE (partner)	REGARD
COLLABORATION	SOLILOQUY
COMEDIES	SONNETS
COURT	STAGE
DRAMATIST	STRATFORD
ENGLISH	SUSANNA (daughter)
GENIUS	TALENT
GLOBE	THEATRE
GREAT	TRAGEDIES
HATHAWAY	WILLIAM
JOHN (father)	WITTY
KING'S MEN (acting group)	

BY THEATRE GABRUB
AHAJDGGN J REGARD
CTOWEEGRLAMBNGS
OHSNALTOEAPTOUT
NYIEIHNOIASRSLH
IURSBDTLUITAIMG
STHAOSLATQNGCLI
NNENMIOAHNTEOPR
EENLWCMMNAFEDMYW
MLNKOAVONGDIETY
SAAUROTCAEBEDTA
GTRDROFTARTSII
NTLNMASTERYSSEWP
ICRPYUQOLILOSTO
KZNOITAROBALLOC

Dear Junior readers,

On rainy days, such as those we experienced this week, people are confined to staying at home except if absolutely necessary. If television and video were the only means of pastime, people would soon become extremely bored with their comfortable homes.

Perhaps board games are the most common and most educating indoor game pastime. There is such a large, reasonably priced, variety of these games on the market: Cluedo, Who killed who?, Snakes and Ladders, Frustration, Monopoly, Risk, Scrabble and many

more. It is worthwhile to save some of your pocket money and, with help from your parents, buy a small variety of these games — perhaps a three in one box — for these indoor days.

To make the games more exciting, keep a scoreboard and aim at becoming the Grand Winner.

If your younger brothers/sisters wish to join in the fun, please don't push them out. Give them simple tasks to do like keeping the scoreboard. They can draw a line under the respective name each time someone wins?

Maral

Five currant buns in the baker's shop,
Big and fat with sugar on the top.
Along came a boy(girl) with a penny one day,
Bought a currant bun And took it away.
(Continue rhyme with "Four currant buns" etc.)



Order! Order!

Who is third? The Ring her.

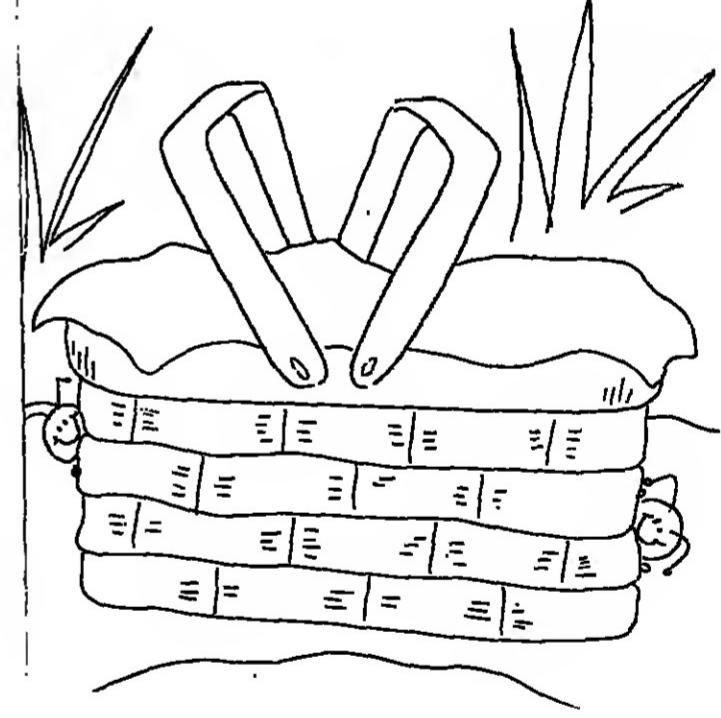
Who is fifth? The Ring her.

Who is fourth? The Ring her.

Ring the second and the sixth ones.

Who is last? The Who is first? The Ring them.

Colour Time



PICNIC LUNCH

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
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Date of birth:
School:
Hobbies:
Telephone: (confidential)

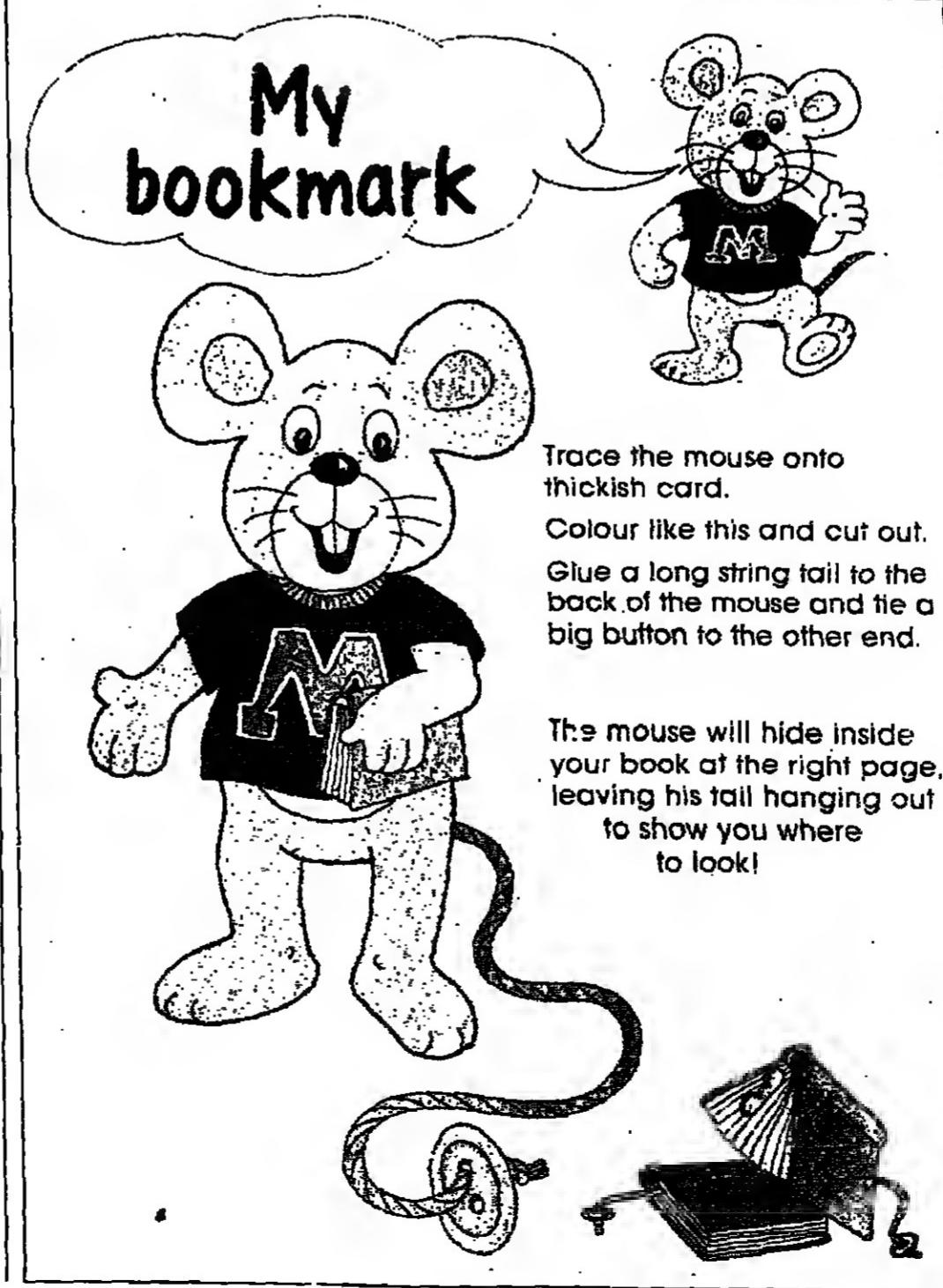
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To avoid belated greetings, please send within a week before the special date

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)



BLONDIE — By Dean Higham & Charles M. Schulz



MISTER SCOTT THE HORSE RIDE



AGATHA CHRISTIE



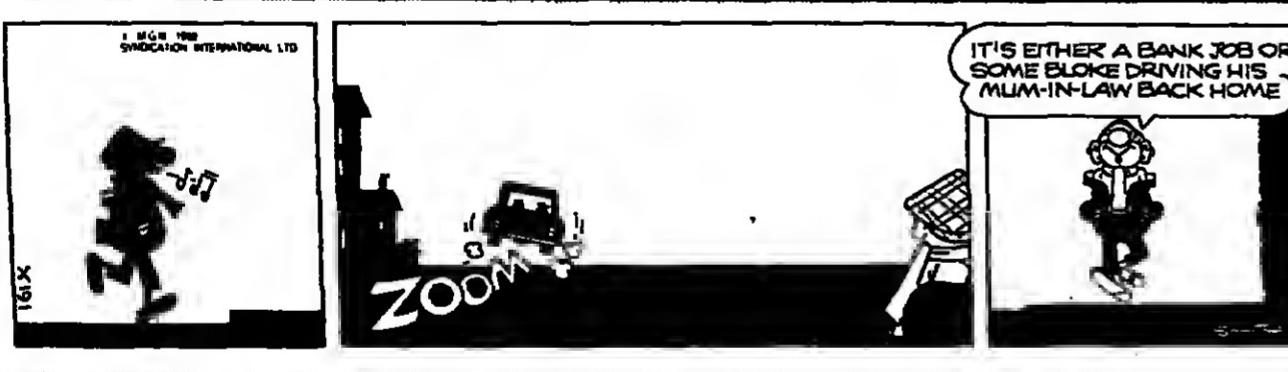
BEETLEBAIT



THE WIZARD OF 18 — By George O'Donnell



ANDY CAPP



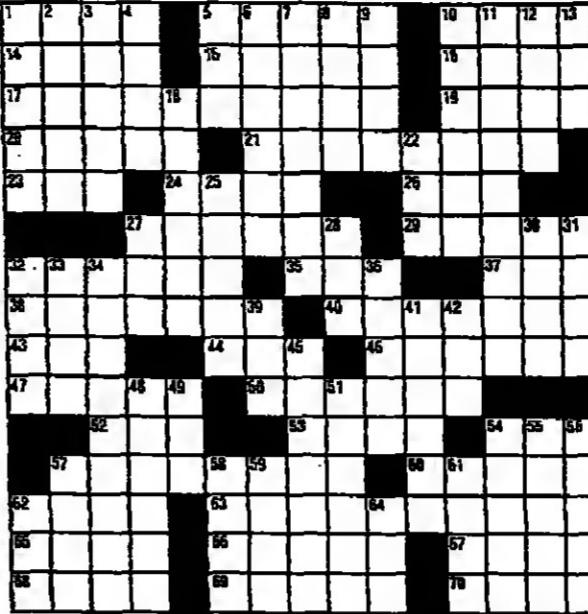
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Young oyster 28 Smidgen
 5 Smart follower 69 Kit feature
 10 NCO 70 Crave
 14 Candystriper, e.p. 30 Titicaca, for one
 15 Alcott's "Little..." 31 "Zounds!"
 16 Tam's hue 32 Cab Calloway specialty
 17 Weather map 33 "Strong as —"
 storm belt 34 Sensational headlines
 19 Type of stem 35 Freshwater duck
 20 Besmirch 36 Ton
 21 Essential to completeness 39 Robot drama
 23 Still 41 Astrologer's research source
 24 NBA Hall of Famer 42 West
 25 Pen intimate? 43 Hemispher
 27 What a business hopes to do 45 "A Perfect Spy" author
 29 Tarsus 48 Spread
 32 National park in SW Alberta 51 Poland's Lech
 35 Gob 54 "A face that would — click"
 37 Catch 55 Stu of screendom
 38 Canine's neighbor 56 Landlord's sign
 39 Saw-whet's cousin 57 Hip bones
 40 Old-growth specimens 58 Invitation letters
 44 Before, in Berlin 59 Westernmost country of Eur.
 46 Worked on 61 Arrive as expected
 47 Make use of 62 Away from the job
 50 Ties the knot again 64 Down

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

DA	ST	AMASS	ATAR
DALE	PINTA	RAGE	
ORAL	ADDER	IRON	
REPLICA	PASSAGE		
MESS	BEEN		
SMILE	MOAT	TIE	
TOMES	BERN	HELP	
ALPS	DOTTED	ALLO	
MARE	ALAS	AIILED	
PRED	ULIAN	FLARE	
SANS	ASTA		
CLAWIER	PARI	BRS	
HIRE	GORES	ALAN	
AMIR	NAILS	MORE	
ROOT	ORALE	BRAE	

ZODIACS

Aries
March 21 - April 19Cancer
June 21 - July 20Libra
Sept 23 - Oct 22Capricorn
Dec 22 - Jan 19Taurus
April 21 - May 20Leo
July 22 - Aug 21Scorpio
Oct 23 - Nov 22Aquarius
Jan 20 - Feb 18

You should not allow yourself to be invaded by negative thoughts. Your lucky numbers are 3 and 42. Give your partner no cause for complaint. Make sure you do not eat more than you know you should. Be fair.

Have the courage of your convictions and do not beaulk at your problems. Instead face up to them and do not hide in the sand. Make sure you get plenty of exercise and enough rest, too. Be moderate.

Ensure your diet contains enough vitamins. You will be more persuasive but should not rely on that to get your way in all things. All kinds of exaggerations are to be avoided. Be tolerant.

You will not feel at your best but with a little more willpower will be able to do what has to be done. You should make sure you do not allow yourself to oversleep. Do not rely too much on someone you do not know very well. Be dependable.

There will be plenty of distractions but you should avoid them. Do not spend too long chattering on the phone. Avoid postponing things, rather get on with them straight away. Be magnanimous.

You will be better able to face up to change but should avoid change just for the sake of changing. Do not get lost in detail, and keep your objectives in view. Look after your health a little better. Be reasonable.

You will have some luck but more by way of avoiding loss than gain. You should not neglect a personal matter, but nor should you spend too much time upon it. Avoid going to extremes and do not exaggerate. Be prompt.

You will be able to see things more clearly than you have done recently. You should not try to get out of keeping a promise you have made. Think twice or more before doing something you are tempted to do. Be precise.

"I'm sorry, sir, Dr. Rogers can see you only by referral."



"Clarissa, will you please get back in here this instant."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
SUCCUMBING TO PRESSURE

North-South vulnerable. South for a penalty of at least 500 points. At duplicate, however, 500 points would not be enough to compensate for a vulnerable game. So when New Jerseyans Larry Cohen and Dave Berkowitz sat North-South, Cohen elected to bid three no trump—a contract which was in some jeopardy.

West led a low heart, and declarer correctly inserted dummy's jack. When that won, the queen of clubs was run successfully (East would have done better to cover). Declarer next tried the diamond finesse and, when the jack won, he led a low spade toward the table's honors.

West hopped up with the king and reverted to the king of hearts, taken with the ace. Both of dummy's spades were cashed, East discarding a diamond on the second of these. Declarer came to hand with another diamond finesse and cashed the ace of spades. Since East could not discard from either minor suit without setting up at least one trick for declarer, he was forced to part with the remaining heart. So Berkowitz cashed the ace of diamonds and exited with a diamond to East's king. That worthy now had to lead away from his king of clubs into declarer's combined ace-jack tenace, giving declarer an amazing 11 tricks to all.



"I brought your slippers."

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SALMIYA, behind the fire station. Accommodation in a spacious villa for Indian bachelors with or without meals. Tels. 2450806, 2418599. (AT4-51386-3)

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KUWAIT City, behind the GPO, one room for 2 Goan bachelors to share with a Goan family. Also 1 room for 1 bachelor to share with another bachelor. Tele. 2449001 ext. 660. (AT4-51382-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq, behind the Firdous Cinema beside the Teachers Training Institute (female), house No. 117. Accommodation for a family. Tele. Ezzat Mohammad Musa, 2432169. (AT4-51411-3)

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GM Van 1981 with refrigeration unit for sale. Tele. Mr. Faisal/Mr. Rasheed, 2406488, 2464389. 4-6 pm. (AT4-51405-3)

CHEVROLET Sprint, 11 months old, low mileage, full warranty, in perfect condition. KD1.925 ono. Tele. 3717857. (AT2-51376-3)

CITROEN, 1986 model, rarely used, in good condition, KD1.800, negotiable. Tele. Mr. Adel, 2633167, 2633479. (AT3-51385-3)

NISSAN Patrol, 4-wheel drive, 85 model, 1 door, white, 72,000 kms, insured up to Oct '90, in very good condition. KD1.600. Tele. 4884196. 2-9 pm only. (AT2-51360-3)

BMW 320, '79 model, automatic, with AC, white, insured up to July 1990. KD500, negotiable. Tele. 5627272. (AT3-51392-3)

Miscellaneous

BEAUTIFUL one bedroom apartment with IKEA furniture, carpets, coffee tables, dining room, matching curtains, plants, full electrical and kitchen appliances etc. Tele. Rafik, 2423680. (AT4-51414-3)

SOFAset KD50, TV 27" KD45, TV stand KD9, 2 ACs KD90, cooker, oil heater etc. Tele. Arafat, 5740215. (AT4-51407-3)

BMW motorcycle K-100RS metallic pearl white, 1988 model in excellent condition. Tele. Osman, 2546022. 12 noon - 4 pm. (AT4-51396-3)

3 BEDROOM well maintained apartment in Shaab with household furniture and appliances including ACs for sale. Tele. 2615688. 5-8 pm. (AT4-51344-3)

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WILLINE LINES

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SPORTS

Germans aim to combine teams by 1996 Games

BONN, Feb 5, (Reuters): East and West Germany are "certain" to send one combined German team to the 1996 Olympic Games, a leading East German sports official said yesterday.

"At the 1996 Olympics there is certain to be one German team," Jochen Gruenwald of the East German Sports Federation (DTSB) told the West German sports news agency Sid in an interview in East Berlin.

With plans for political unity of the two Germans picking up pace by the day, East German sports chiefs believe the two countries should move fast to merge their sporting worlds.

"Sport must send a strong social message to politics. We sportsmen can be a model," Gruenwald said referring to East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow's four-point plan for German unity announced last Thursday.

East and West Germany entered combined teams at the 1956, 1960 and 1964 Olympic Games before competing separately for the first time in 1968.

While national Olympic chiefs remain reserved, saying a single German team depends on political changes, the two states have moved forward fast with plans for joint training and events in many sports since the Berlin Wall crumbled three months ago.

Most nations will shudder at the thought of a combination of the East's efficiency at finding and nurturing talent and the West's big financial backing of sport.

Together they would certainly pose a major threat to the Soviet Union and the United States, traditionally the world's leading powers at Olympic Games.

"I think we could hold very, very good teams in many sports," Rolf Donath, head of East Germany's leading sports science centre near Dresden, told West German radio.

Thousands of East German sports fans took to the streets of East Berlin and Potsdam at the weekend in protests against proposed cutbacks to the national sports budget which many feel will threaten the state's future success.

Rapid Vienna defeat Qatar in friendly

DOHA, Qatar, Feb 5, (AP): Rapid Vienna beat Qatar 1-0 in an exhibition match yesterday. But Qatar goalkeeper Younes Ahmed was the hero of the hour.

It was only his stout defence against repeated strikes by the Austrian First Division team that kept the score so low.

The half-time score was 0-0 and it wasn't until the 85th minute that Heimo Peifenberger scored from a penalty kick.

Peifenberger and five other Rapid Vienna players are in the Austrian squad that will compete in the 24-nation World Cup finals in June.

The Qatari and Bahraini teams are warming up for the Arab Gulf Soccer Championship scheduled for Feb 20.

The six Gulf Co-operation Council countries — Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — plus Iraq will play in the Gulf championship.

Celtics thrash Kings 76ers outlast Bucks

MILWAUKEE, Feb 5, (AP): Derek Smith converted a three-point play with 25 seconds left and Ron Anderson made four free throws in the closing seconds yesterday as the Philadelphia 76ers held off the Milwaukee Bucks 105-102 for their 11th straight victory.

The 76ers, on their longest winning streak since 1984-85 when they won 13 straight, played with a hunched Charles Barkley, who injured a groin in the first quarter but still finished with 14 points. They also lost Rick Mahorn, who was ejected with nine minutes left in the third quarter.

Pistons 115, Jazz 83

The Detroit Pistons held Utah to its lowest point total of the season yesterday, beating the Jazz 115-83 for their seventh straight victory.

The loss was only the second in 13 games for the Jazz, who dropped into a first-place tie with San Antonio in the Midwest Division. The victory increased Detroit's lead to four games over second-place Chicago in the Central Division.

Warriors 105, Timberwolves 95

Chris Mullin scored 18 points and led a second-quarter surge as Golden State won its fourth straight. Randy Bremer scored a career-high 40 points for Expansion Kings 121, Hawks 113



Kings' Danny Ainge (right) tries to pass around Reggie Lewis. (Reuter wirephoto)

Golden State, which had its longest winning streak stopped at three, outscored the Timberwolves 30-10 in the second quarter. Mullin scored 10 points in the period as Golden State shot 61 per cent to

26 per cent for Minnesota. Tim Hardaway had 21 points and Mitch Richmond 20 for Golden State.

Nuggets 125, Hawks 113

Fat Lever scored 12 of his 18 points in the third quarter and Denver outscored Atlanta 19-6 to begin the second half in sending the Hawks to their fifth straight defeat.

Michael Adams had 27 points, Walter Davis 24 and Alex English 18 as Denver withstood a three-man offensive barrage by the Hawks. Dominique Wilkins scored 35 points, Moses Malone had 29 and John Long ded his season high with 20 for Atlanta.

Celtics 121, Kings 83

Kevin McHale scored 14 points and rookie Michael Smith added 10 in a 33-10 second-quarter spurt that turned a 24-19 lead after one quarter into a 57-29 bulge with 2:26 left in the second period. The Celtics made 15 of 18 shots in the second quarter.

Boston was led by McHale with 21 points and Smith and Jim Paxson with season highs of 16. The Kings were paced by Kenny Smith with 18 points.

Results

Detroit	115	Utah	85
Philadelphia	105	Milwaukee	102
Golden State	105	Minnesota	95
Denver	125	Atlanta	113
Portland	123	Sacramento	89
L.A. Lakers	121	Phoenix	121
		New Jersey	121

Chris Mullin scored 18 points and led a second-quarter surge as Golden State won its fourth straight. Randy Bremer scored a career-high 40 points for Expansion Kings 121, Hawks 113

Golden State, which had its longest winning streak stopped at three, outscored the Timberwolves 30-10 in the second quarter. Mullin scored 10 points in the period as Golden State shot 61 per cent to



O'Meara chips out of the sand. (Reuter wirephoto)

O'Meara triumphs at Pebble Beach

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif., Feb 5, (Reuter): Mark O'Meara continued his great run of success in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament by taking a two-stroke victory over Kenoy Perry to pocket the \$180,000 first prize.

The victory was O'Meara's second straight in the tournament and his third here in the last five years.

O'Meara shot an even-par 72 on his last tour of the Pebble Beach course to finish with a total of seven-under-par 281.

"I felt very comfortable all day," the 33-year-old O'Meara said. "I was hitting nice shots. Maybe I relaxed a little on the chip shot at the 16th hole and the tee shot at the 17th, but those probably were the only times."

Perry shot a 70 for his 283 total. PGA champion Payne Stewart, with a 73, and 1989 player of the year Tom Kite, with a 71, tied for third place at 284.

Rocco Mediate, who was one shot behind overnight leader O'Meara when the round started, dropped back into a tie for eighth after a 77.

O'Meara was in command all day. He started the round with a one-shot lead and although Payne Stewart challenged late in the outgoing nine, he faltered to shoot four-over-par 40 coming in.

He had a four-stroke lead through the 15th hole, but the two lapses in concentration cost him bogeys on 16 and 17. O'Meara was able to maintain his lead, however, as Perry bogeyed the 17th and Stewart the 16th and 18th holes.

In Lake Worth, Fla., Pat Bradley came back from squandering a five-stroke lead to sink a 20-foot putt on the last hole of regulation play to reach a playoff with the beat Dale Egging on the first hole to win the \$300,000 Lake Worth Classic LPGA golf tournament yesterday.

Bradley capped her incredibly erratic day by winning her 24th LPGA title by sinking another 20 footer on the first hole of sudden death.

Bradley indicated the kind of day it would be for her when she overshot the green on the first hole and two-putted for a bogey.

Meanwhile, Barbara Mochrie, who was in second place at the start of play, made a birdie-three to cut Bradley's margin to three shots.

Bradley answered by hitting palm tree and then plowing a shot into the water on the par-five second hole for a double-bogey to cut her lead to just one stroke.

Bradley birdied the sixth hole for a two-stroke lead, but stumbled again by three-putting the par-four ninth hole for a one-stroke lead again.

Meanwhile, in the group ahead of Bradley and Mochrie, Egging was charging hard. She had four birdies on the first 10 holes.

Bradley, for the first time in the tournament, fell back into the field with a bogey on the 14th hole to tie for the lead with Mochrie and Egging.

Lynagh rejects \$770,000 offer

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb 5, (Reuters): Michael Lynagh, Australian Rugby Union's most prolific points scorer, rejected an estimated one million Australian dollar (\$770,000) offer to switch codes to Rugby League today.

"It was tempting, but I've still got a bit to do for rugby union yet," said the veteran of 36 internationals who has scored more than 450 points for his country.

Lynagh, who was offered a three-year contract by struggling north Sydney in New South Wales, the heartland of Australian Rugby League, said the code appealed to him.

"The two games are similar. It would be nice to see how I would go playing league and whether I could reach the same level of success as I have playing rugby (union)."

"But for now, I'm still enjoying rugby," said Lynagh, who has received several offers to switch to League in both Australia and Britain in recent years.

Queensland State Rugby Union coach John Connolly said he was relieved to learn of Lynagh's decision. "There are only a certain number of Michael Lynagh in this lifetime and we can ill-afford to lose him."

Over the last few days they played friendly matches against Pakistan Cavaliers, Rangers and New Indian School. Ranjeet, Noel and Niazamuddin Chaudhury took four wickets each in various matches. Ranjeet also scored 77,31 and 35 while Noel hit 44,38 and 36 in the three games. The results of the games were as follows.

NCCT vs Pakistan Cavaliers

Cardinals overcome Giants

THE Giants suffered their first loss in the Kuwait Little League this season when they lost to the Cardinals on Friday.

The Cardinals were ready and Hisham Navarro started the team off with a home run in the first inning and later hit a triple and a single earning a RBI for his team. Nasser Al Wogayani hit a double bringing in a RBI. Fahad Al Mithan was walked each time at bat, but was able to score 3 out of 4 times. Cardinals pitcher Sultan Mahrabi did a fine job for his team.

The Giants started off strong as usual, but were held in the third and fourth innings. Youkilis led off with a run. Yoshimura, Massou, Watanabe, and Masuda, Nagashima. It was the defense of the Cardinals that kept the Giants from earning a tying run. The final score: Giants 9 Cardinals 10.

The Dodgers and Rangers gave their fans an exciting game especially in the first inning. Dodgers scored 4 runs in the first inning, but were held to no scores the rest of the game.

The Rangers scored 3 runs the first inning, but to the third inning Rusty Stomaugh hit a home run earning 2 RBIs. At the end of 3 innings the Rangers beat the Dodgers 8-4.

The Pirates and Orioles showed some excellent baseball. Both teams offense and defense looked great. Cory Fox hit two nice doubles, unfortunately no runners were able to score. Ryan Fox also hit a double earning 2 RBIs for the team.

The Pirates looked strong. Waqar Hasib hit a double as did Firdous Afzal, Mazin Shabir hit a triple bringing Firdous home. The Pirates were able to out score the Orioles 7-5.

The Mariners and Astros went at it in a fine display of baseball skills. The two Minor league teams are improving each week. It's a pitching game in the minors and the Astros managed to have enough batters walk and score.

The Mariners did have some hits. Hiroaki Suzuki hit a single and a double, Nobuharu Mano hit a single, and Hiromi Abele Hamid hit 2 singles. Only Hiroaki Suzuki and Zinedine Sakhri were able to score for the team. The Astros were 2-2.

Results

T-ball	1st	2nd	3rd
Cubs	31	Twins	1
Braves	1	Tigers	1
Red Sox	1	Marlins	1
Mariners	2	Astros	1
Mets	9	Blue Jays	1
Dodgers	4	Rangers	1
Giants	9	Cardinals	1
Pirates	7	Orioles	1
White Sox	13	Red Sox	11

Home-run hitters: Hisham Navarro, Cardinals; Rusty Stomaugh, Rangers; Mishal Al Khabeer, Mets.

Martin stuns Joyner-Kersee

Herold surprises O'Sullivan

FAIRFAX, Va., Feb 5, (Reuters): Jens-Peter Herold of East Germany withstood a strong charge from Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan to win the mile run at the Fairfax Grand Prix Athletics meeting.

Herold took the lead midway through the race and built a 12-metre margin to finish in three minutes, 58.96 seconds to O'Sullivan's 4:00.39.

"I didn't want to let it come down to a sprint," said Herold, the Olympic bronze medallist at 1,500 metres. "Marcus is too strong, so I had to be aggressive."

American Arthur Blake surprised his esteemed countrymen in the 60-metre hurdle, crossing in 7.51 seconds to out-due Greg Foster, Renaldo Nehemiah and Roger Kingdom.

Blake, a strong starter, left the blocks just ahead of Foster, who was second in 7.56.

Lavonne Martin of the United States upset American Jackie Joyner-Kersee in the women's 60-metre hurdles. Martin, who also beat Joyner-Kersee in the Millrose Games at New York on Friday, attributed her 7.99-second performance to her competition.

"Having Jackie in the race just makes you want to push harder," Martin said.

Romanians swept the women's distance events as Doina Melinte won the 800 in 2:00.13 minutes and Viorica Ghican captured the mile in 4:27.10.

Both runners used exceptional finishing kicks to defeat their accomplished rivals. Melinte held off East Germans Christine Wachtel and Sigrid Wodars, the Seoul Olympics gold and silver medalists.

ists respectively. Ghican outsprinted teammates Margareta Keszeg and Soviet Svetlana Kiova down the final backstretch.

Hungary's Istvan Bagyula, a student in the United States, won the pole vault, setting a national record at 5.70 metres.

American Butch Reynolds, the world outdoor record holder at 400 metres, was beaten at that distance by Clarence Daniel of the United States. Daniel ran 46.28 seconds to Reynolds' sub-par 47.31.

In Stuttgart, West Germany, American Danny Everett shaved one hundredth of a second off the 400 metres world indoor record in a blistering run at the Stuttgart Indoor Athletics Meeting yesterday.

Everett held off compatriot Danny Harris to clock 45.04 seconds and break the record set by East German Thomas Schoenlebe two years ago on another West German track in Sindelfingen.

SPORTS

BKME
overwhelm
Evergreen

THE Bank of Kuwait and the Middle East (BKME) moved closer to retaining the Arteson Thursday League title with a winning 45-30 win over Evergreen at the KOC Oval ground on Thursday.

BKME won the toss and elected to bat first with openers Ashfaq and Ronnie St. These two put on 39 runs off six overs before Ronnie was bowled by Asifad for 15, Ayub and Ramesh departed in quick succession scoring 1 and 2 respectively. Ashfaq at the other end displayed superb strokes, belting Amjad for a six and also hitting Zahid Butt twice over the fence. Such was Ashfaq's dominance that when he was adjudged lbw off Haider at the total score of 84 his contribution was 52.

Sandeep and Sethi carried on where Ashfaq left, showing scant respect to the Evergreen bowlers. These two put on 64 runs in 8 overs with Sandeep scoring 33 with 2 fours, and Sethi contributing 32 with a six and 2 fours.

BKME at the end of 24 overs piled up 166 for 6 with James and Basitak the not out batsmen with 13 and 5 respectively.

Evergreen began their reply with Zahid and Ashfaq. Zahid swinging his bat like a baseball bat managed to score 20 when his luck ran out with Sandeep holding on to a well-judged catch off Rommy Jr. Ashfaq fell to a Sandeep-Rommy Jr combination with Sandeep again taking a brilliant running catch. Amjad was caught at the wicket by Ashfaq off Salim for 15 and the same due accounted for Ghulam Haider for 10, which took the fight out of Evergreen. James yorked Wazir for 6 and Evergreen were struggling at 71 for 5. BKME kept up the pressure with Tariq having Sadakat caught by Salim for 16 and then bowling Shehzad for no score. Smart fielding by Rommy Jr ran James for 22. Shahzad and Asifad followed running themselves out to end Evergreen's day of misery and their innings ended at 121 with a disappointed Asifad Baig left stranded as the other end still trying to figure out where he went wrong.

Ashfaq: hit 52

The lead now passed to Frieseneger, who held his position to the finish line, with Dick second in a season best performance, Wakely third and novice driver Wheeler fourth. With the addition of the bonus points system Kieron Dick led the challenge with 16.7 points followed by Frieseneger (16.1) and Wheeler (15.9).

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Bollig second, Dick third

Wheeler lifts Honda Trophy

The top three finishers on the victory stand. From left: Bollig, Wheeler and Dick.

DAVID WHEELER (AMP) took home the Honda Challenge Trophy after an exciting day's racing at the Ahmadi Kart Track on Friday. Second place fell to Tom Bollig (Halliburton) and third place to another new driver this season, Kieron Dick.

The Honda Challenge Trophy sponsored by Mutawa Al Kazi Company, is a handicap race, where each driver is seeded and awarded a bonus percentage, to be multiplied by their finishing position points. This meant that scorer Terry Slattery had to be handy with his calculator as well as keep a record of finishing positions. It also means that the race is open for anyone to win as coming over the line first does not mean winning the race! Ahmadi's top drivers were obviously therefore under some pressure to perform well if they were to be placed in the day's event.

A fair-sized crowd had turned out to grab some excitement from what was a cold, damp and overcast Friday with hot drinks doing good business in the cafeteria. The track-side marshals did a sterling job in standing out in the cold during the racing whilst some hot blooded driving took place on the track around them.

In the first of the day's races, joint second seed Lloyd spun out on the second bend after coming off worst in a battle with Haines and Wakely on the banked bend, Lloyd managed to restart only to collide with Langer a few laps later. Bollig led the field after the first lap but was to lose it to Haines in the lap that followed.

Bollig then spun out on the fifth lap handing second place over to Frieseneger (Mahdi Habib Comm. Est) with Kieron Dick stepping in to take third. On the ninth lap Haines came to grief when his engine seized and a rear sprocket holder cracked.

The lead now passed to Frieseneger, who held his position to the finish line, with Dick second in a season best performance, Wakely third and novice driver Wheeler fourth. With the addition of the bonus points system Kieron Dick led the challenge with 16.7 points followed by Frieseneger (16.1) and Wheeler (15.9).

With the final race approaching, the race start, Sandra Gardiner, the top seeded drivers, Haines and Lloyd were out of the competition for the Honda trophies. The top four places were now with Wheeler, Wakely, Bollig and Dick. Haines led after the first lap with Lloyd second but this was incidental, the race for the trophies was being decided further down the field. The decision on the placing was however not with the drivers but with their fortunes.

An unlucky Wakely was robbed of a start to the race when his chain snapped on the rolling lap which left him out of the placings for a trophy. Kieron Dick managed to complete two laps before he collided with Wheeler pushing them both out of the race. Tom Colclough in second place managed to hold off Bollig for four laps until a determined Bollig passed him on the fifth relegation Colclough to third place. Neil Gardner, who had an unfortunate day of seizing engines and reshaping pistons with files, and Ray Washer, who suffered a bent rear axle in the first race of the day, finally got into the picture in this final race passing under the flag to fifth and sixth positions respectively.

Thus the day ended with Wheeler's unassailable total of 58.5, holding good to the end, despite a last heat collision. Tom Bollig in a final heat rush took second place with 57.5 points, and Dick, who managed to scrape enough points together in the final heat, took overall third place with 51.2 points. Tom Colclough soaked home to fourth place followed by Lloyd, Haines, Wakely, Gardner, Langer, Washer and bruised but not broken Frieseneger.

The Honda Challenge Trophies were presented by Honda's Mike Devoy who had enjoyed a good day's racing with plenty of excitement and surprises and thanks were passed from the club to Honda for their support.

The next meeting at Ahmadi Kart Track is on Feb 16, 1990 for the next round of the Ahmadi Challenge Cup and the Kuwait National Drivers Championship. The next ladies race always a popular event, will be on Feb 23.



Sanchez (centre) goes up for a scissor kick. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sanchez sent off

MADRID, Feb 5. (Reuter): Leading goalscorer Hugo Sanchez was sent off as Real Madrid dropped their first home point of the season yesterday, drawing 1-1 with Real Mallorca in a bad-tempered Spanish League soccer game.

But nearest rivals Barcelona and Atletico Madrid failed to cash in. Barcelona lost 1-0 at Castellon while Atletico went down 2-1 away to Sevilla on Saturday.

Valencia, 2-0 winners at Cadiz, have moved up to third spot, level on points with Barcelona and Atletico but six behind Real.

Sanchez's exit came the 66th minute after two warnings – the first for aggressive tackling and the second for arguing with the referee.

Mallorca's Moroccan goalkeeper Badou Ezaki later alleged the Mexican World Cup striker had taunted him with racist comments.

Real forwards missed early chances and it was defender Fernando Hierro who gave them the lead from a 32nd minute free kick.



Nafez receives his prize

DUNHILL
Int'l

THE Dunhill Annual Bowling Tournament was held at the 300 Bowling Club at the Bishar Al-Kazemi Towers recently. This year's event attracted many bowlers from various clubs in Kuwait. 120 bowlers from the KOC Bowling Club, various sea clubs as well as the regular 300 Club members took part in the tournament which featured an open championship for men and another for ladies. The final results were as follows:

Ladies: 1st 1084, Lyn Hayes; 2nd 1072, Nitza Almeida; 3rd 1056, Randa Peter; 4th 1051, Malou Tadra; High Game 21, Randa Peter; Lowest 731, Baby Militante. Men: 1st 1505, Nafez Al Akras; 2nd 1505, Anukut; 3rd 1501, Mohammad Sera; 4th 1493, Mohammad Al Amer; 5th 1489, Waleed Al Zenk; 6th 1479, Nashaf Mohamad; High Game 237, Waleed Al Zenk; Lowest 841, Sadiq Al Awadi.

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and disease of the lungs, heart and arteries.

Jaguars take top positions at Daytona

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida, Feb. 5. (UPI): Jaguar drivers Davy Jones, Jan Lammers and Andy Wallace won the 24 hours of Daytona for International Motor Sports Association cars yesterday finishing four laps ahead of teammates Price Cobb, John Nielsen and Martin Brundle to make the English automaker the only manufacturer other than Porsche to win the race than once.

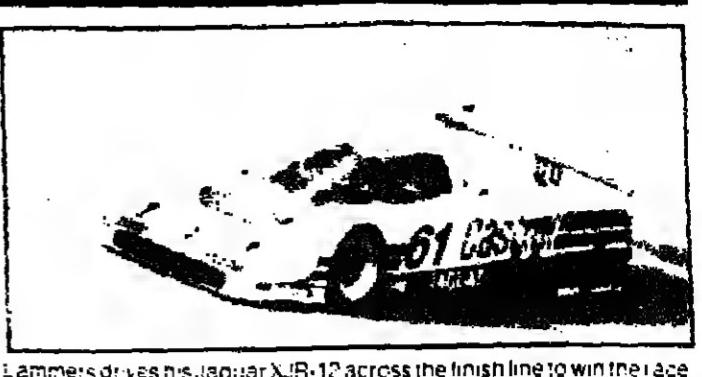
The triumph was the second in three years for the Tom Walkinshaw racing Jaguar team, as Brundle, Nielsen and Raul Boesel won in 1988 in the US debut of Jaguar's factory-backed team.

The winners completed a record 761 laps, covering 2,709.16 miles (4,359.83 km) breaking the old lap record of 753 set in 1987 by Chip Robinson, Derek Bell, Al Holbert and Al Unser Jr in a Porsche. The time of the race was 24 hours, 19.049 seconds, the winner's average speed was 112.857 mph (181.620 kph) and the margin of victory was four laps plus 54.115 seconds.

Finishing third was the pole-sitting Porsche 962 of Bob Wollek, Sarel van der Merwe and Dominic Dobson, which came home six laps behind the winners. Another Porsche 962, this one driven by Hans Stuck, Hurley Haywood, Rene Herzog and Harold Groiss, finished fourth.

Finishing fifth overall and first in the GTO Division was the Mercury Cougar of Robby Gordon, Calum Fish, Robert Lippakainen and Lynn St James.

Lammers, of the Netherlands, and Wallace, of England, were part of Jaguar's winning entry in the 1988 24 hours of Le Mans along with Johnny Dumfries.



Lammers drives his Jaguar XJR-12 across the finish line to win the race (Reuter wirephoto)



First bullfight

Julio Vega 'Marismeño' holds his place for the charge of this lightning bull in the first bullfight of the season on Sunday in Valdemarillo, Spain (Reuter wirephoto)

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Championship**
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2. Name the player who scored the most goals in a single tournament?
3. Who will win the Gulf Cup Tournament held in Kuwait 1990?

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ARAB & TIMES PARADE

SAS bridge

RESULTS of the SAS Bridge Club game played on Sunday:
1st D. Maturi & B. Moussalli
2nd L. Murthwaike & N. Akel
3rd G. Ghakoura & E. Kerasia

Yugoslav player

BELGRADE, Feb 5. (Reuter): Yugoslavia's Slobodan Zivojinovic is likely to be dropped from his country's Davis Cup squad after losing a crucial singles tie in the third seeds' 3-2 first round weekend defeat by New Zealand.

Portuguese Cup

LISBON, Feb 5. (Reuter): Bulgarian Stoychko Mladenov scored two late goals for Setubal to pitch last season's finalists Benfica out of the Portuguese Cup soccer tournament yesterday.

Norway win

VALLETTA, Malta, Feb 5. (AP): Bent Skammestad and Rune Tangen scored in the final three minutes yesterday as Norway rallied and beat World Cup qualifier South Korea 3-2 in the Rothmans soccer tournament.

Goalkeeper dies

LISBON, Portugal, Feb 5. (AP): Jose Alberto Teixeira Ferreira, long-standing goalkeeper with top soccer team F.C. Porto and better known to fans as Ze Beto, died in a car crash, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported today.

Formula one

STUTTGART, West Germany, Feb 5. (AP): The West German sports car maker Porsche has signed an exclusive three-year contract with Britain's Arrows team to supply them with 12-cylinder engines beginning in 1991, the company said today.

Cubs triumph

PHOENIX, Feb 5. (AP): Ken Rudolph hit a two-run double in the bottom of the seventh and final inning to give the 1969 Chicago Cubs a 3-2 victory over Baltimore Orioles in yesterday's fifth annual dream game billed as "The World Series that never was."

Title bout

TOKYO, Feb 5. (AP): Boxing promoter Doo King today promised a star-studded audience for next week's Mike Tyson-James Douglas heavyweight championship bout, but out in the stands ticket sales remain slow.

Giant Slalom

VEYSSONNAZ, Switzerland, Feb 5. (AP): Mateja Svec of Yugoslavia sliced the two fastest heats today to win her second World Cup Giant Slalom of the season by a wide margin.

NHL games

NEW YORK, Feb 5. (Reuter): Results of National Hockey League (NHL) games played yesterday:

Edmonton	5	Washington	4
Boston	3	Quebec	2
NY Islanders	1	Buffalo	0
Montreal	2	Hartford	0
NY Rangers	4	Minnesota	3
Winnipeg	7	Chicago	3
Vancouver	4	New Jersey	2

Guernsey Open

ST PETER PORT, Guernsey, Feb 5. (Reuters): World champion Susan Devoy of New Zealand, competing in her first tournament to five wins, the crushed England's top player Lisa Orie 9-59-58-4 in the final of the Guernsey Open women's squash tournament yesterday.

Speed skating

LAKE PLACID, New York, Feb 5. (AP): Seiko Hashimoto of Japan overtook Bonnie Blair of the United States in the last 100 metres to win the 1,000-metre event yesterday at the World Cup speed skating competition.

Bedi seeks Vengsarkar to reinforce side

New Zealand rout India



Hadlee (left) jumping with joy after taking his 400th wicket, of Sanjay Manjrekar (right). (Reuter wirephotos)

had his way to the landmark. In the process, he took one risk too many and at 96, mistimed a pull at Danny Morrison to be caught at mid-wicket.

Raman must have regretted his haste for Venkatapathy Raju, who had batted so well in his role as night watchman in the first innings, again offered tough resistance, as did Atul Wasun, bat-

ting at number nine.

They kept the New Zealand bowlers at bay for more than an hour and looked almost impre-

nable until the second new ball was taken.

Then Raju was undermined by a ball from Martin Sneddon which both lifted and cut away to induce an edge to wicketkeeper Ian Smith.

Hadlee then wound up the ironings by having last man Narendra Hirwani caught at second slip.

The Indians obviously took their defeat to heart because right after the end of the match, they

were hard at practice.

Their cricket manager, Bishen Singh Bedi, said: "The boys have not really earned themselves a rest and we will be having a full workout tomorrow."

Meanwhile, Bishen awaited re-

ponse from the chairman of India's selectors to his request that former captain Dilip Vengsarkar, who was controversially left out from the original party, be sent out to reinforce the side in the wake of Sidhu's injury.

Bedi said: "The doctor feels

that it will be four weeks before Sidhu can play again. But we are not sending him home right away."

We want to see what progress he makes in the next week, for we badly need him for the one-dayers."

Scoreboard

CRICKET TEST BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND INDIA ON MONDAY:

NEW ZEALAND first innings 459

INDIA second innings (210 for five overnight)

W. Raman c Jones b Morrison 96

M. Prabhakar b Snedden 40

S. Manjrekar b Hadlee 30

K. More b Hadlee 11

S. Tendulkar c Smith b Bracewell 24

Kapil Dev lbw b Hadlee 25

S. Venkataswamy Raju 21

c Smith b Snedden 21

A. Wasun not out 24

N. Hirwani c Bracewell b Hadlee 0

N. Sidhu absent (injured) 0

Extras (b-6, lb-2, nb-13) 21

Total 296

Fall of wickets: 1-80, 2-85, 3-135

4-160, 5-206, 6-242, 7-254, 8-289, 9-296

Bowling: Hadlee 22.5-3-69-4, Morrison 19-0-94-1, Snedden 25-5-59-2, Richardson 5-0-21-0, Bracewell 20-3-45-2

NEW ZEALAND second innings

M. Snedden not out 1

D. Morrison not out 1

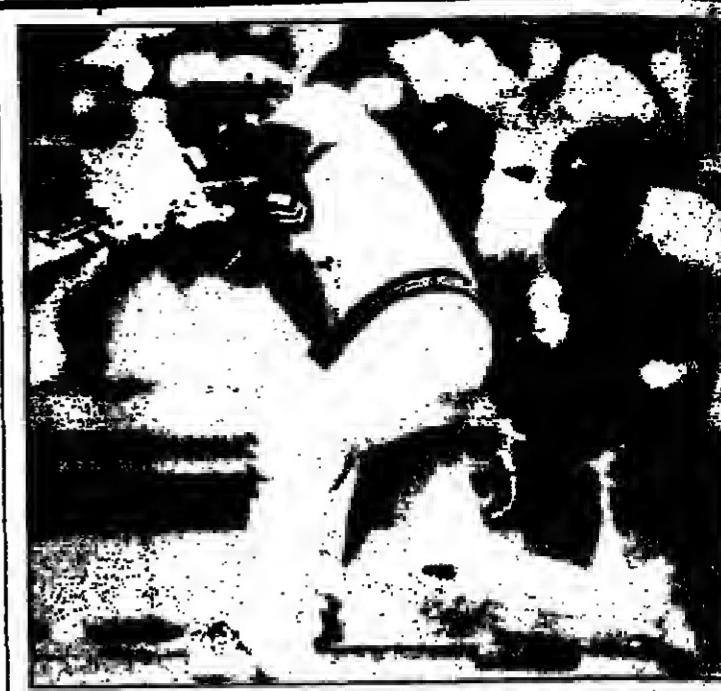
Total (no wickets) 2

Bowling: Prabhakar 0-5-0-2

Man of the match: John Wright

Result: New Zealand won by ten wickets.

The second Test will be at Napier on Feb 9 and the third will be at Auckland on Feb 22.



Miandad becomes fifth highest scorer

SYDNEY, Feb 5. (Reuter): Javed Miandad became Test cricket's fifth highest scorer on Monday as his 50 partnership with captain Imran Khan brought some stability to Pakistan's first innings in the third Test against Australia.

Pakistan, trying to level the three-test series, were 110 for five when bad light halted play 20 minutes early on the third day. The first two days play were abandoned after torrential rain from cyclone Nancy.

Australian Cricket Board officials said the match would be extended by a day to end on Thursday.

Imran and vice-captain Miandad came together when Pakistan were struggling at 51 for four. They added 55 before Miandad was out for 40 after ballooning a catch to Dean Jones in the gully off the bowling of Merv Hughes. He batted for 233 minutes and hit five fours.

Miandad, whose stand threatened to rob the home side of the advantage of their early wickets, overtook West Indian Viv Richards' total of 7,849 Test runs when he moved to eight with two runs behind square leg off Terry Alderman.

Play began 75 minutes late today as ground staff dried out the ground.

Australian captain Allan Border asked Pakistan to bat first so a pitch that had sweated for several days under covers and which threatened surprises.

They started badly, losing two wickets in the 45 minutes of play before lunch.

Rameez Raja was out without scoring when Merv Hughes snipped up a caught and bowled chance below his knees and Shoaib Mohammad was trapped leg before by Terry Alderman for nine.

The third wicket fell at 20 soon after lunch in controversial circumstances.

Aamer Malik was out caught behind by Iao Healy off Alderman for seven but the batsman clearly felt the ball had touched only his pad. He punched his pad in disgust when the umpire gave him out and stood at the wicket for several seconds before slowly walking away.

Ejaz Ahmed, who almost saved his side from defeat in the first Test with a gritty century, was out for eight at 51 when a rising delivery from Carl Rackemann caught the shoulder of his bat, offering a slight chance to Mark Taylor at second slip.

The wickets were shared between the Australian fast bowlers with Alderman taking two for 33, Hughes two for 36 and Rackemann one for 18 off 15 overs.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN first innings

Aamer Malik c Healy b Alderman 7

Rameez Raja c and b Hughes 0

Shoaib Mohammad lbw b Alderman 49

Javed Miandad c Jones b Hughes 58

Ejaz Ahmed c M. Taylor b Alderman 27

Imran Khan not out 0

Wasim Akram not out 0

Extras (lb-4, nb-2) 6

Total (for five wickets) 110

Fall of wickets: 1-22, 1-23, 2-30, 3-41, 4-51, 5-106

To bat: Salim Yousuf, Tauseef Ahmed, Nadeem Ghouri, Waqar Younis

Bowling: Alderman 21-5-32-2 (1nb), Hughes 21-12-36-2 (1nb), Rackemann 15-6-18-1, P. Taylor 4-0-19-0.

France ponder their future

PARIS, Feb 5. (Reuter): A perplexed French team, their hopes of retaining the Five Nations title wrecked and their World Cup preparations in tatters, pondered their uncertain future too today after Saturday's 26-7 humiliation by England in Paris.

"The end of a reign," proclaimed the sports daily "L'Equipe" on its front page, describing the home team's performance more pointedly in an inside column as the "French disconnection."

Players officials, recognising they were beaten by a far superior team, wondered aloud just where the once-so-mighty XV was heading after the debacle at the Parc des Princes.

"I just don't understand how we could be so ridiculous," flanked Laurent Rodriguez said. "When you concede so many points in the tournament, especially at the Parc des Princes."

"The difference between the teams was enormous. We have no excuses to offer. We were devoured by their collective performance and we could do nothing."

"After this match, I wonder if we know how to play rugby because we made so many errors."

England first innings 444 for 6 declared (Alec Stewart 125, Wayne Larkins 107, R. Smith 71)

LEEDS: ENGLAND first innings (overnight 138 for 3)

R. Bassie lbw b Small 21

S. Williams c Small 1

R. Richardson c and b Small 83

K. Arthurton lbw b Defrettes 7

R. Otto lbw b Malcolm 18

H. Anthony c Malcolm 0

L. Harris c Malcolm b Defrettes 19

E. Baptista c Malcolm 61

R. Guhaard c Russell b Small 21

W. Benjamin not out 0

K. Benjamin absent injured 0

Extras (b-3 lb-8 w-3 nb-1) 25

Total 256

Fall of wickets: 1-2-2-80-3-72-4-138

5-138-6-145 7-172-8-248-9-256

Bowling: Malcolm 23-4-86-3, Small 23-5-75-4, Defrettes 14-5-53-2, Medcalf 5-0-3-1-0

ENGLAND second innings:

G. Gooch and b Guisnard 50

W. Larkins c Guisnard 27

R. Bailey c sub (Lake) b Arthurton 10

N. Hussain lbw b Arthurton 10

R. Smith not out 2

W. Larkins not out 2

Extras (b-6 lb-6 w-1) 11

Total (for four wickets) 112